

FRUITION

IMPACT REPORT | 2022-2023

FROM THE CAMPAIGN CHAIR

I am extremely proud to Chair the Great Futures Campaign for The Neighborhood Academy —

an exceptional school where we are building, innovating, and investing in our students' future.

Now more than ever we need to expand our reach



Building, Innovating, and Investing in the Future.

(and our footprint!). The Neighborhood Academy opened its doors to middle school girls in the fall of 2023 and looks forward to breaking ground on the new *Middle School for Girls* in summer of 2024. In order to expand our scope and sustain our education model wholesomely, we are continuing to enhance our STEM and collaborative learning with the addition of the *New Innovation Wing*. This expansion is the most exciting new development on our campus in recent years – a symbol of our growth, success, and future.

Through *Great Futures*, we are not simply constructing buildings, but with a focus on the long-term, we are also building our financial sustainability. By investing in our endowment, we will support our current scholars, faculty, and graduates to secure future opportunities for every student who



has been a part of the transformative TNA education.

TNA has been a part of my life for nearly 30 years.

We are at a critical point in our history. We have overcome many obstacles under the most dedicated leaders and the most steadfast donors. It is imperative that we remain true to our mission and continue to innovate for and invest in our students and graduates. I am deeply grateful for the leadership of our Campaign Cabinet and Dr. Anthony Williams, Head of School, as we are focused on achieving extraordinary outcomes.

With the support of visionary donors like you, our campus will be transformed. We will recruit and retain the most qualified faculty, and every current and future TNA student will be provided an exemplary academic experience in an environment that fosters life-long learning and supports students as they pursue their careers and embrace their citizenship.

It is a true pleasure both to share these exciting plans with long-time donors as their pride in TNA grows and to see the enthusiasm of new supporters eager to engage. Thank you to our Board and Leadership Donors who have already made a gift to our *Great Futures* Campaign – we have inspirational momentum!

I look forward to building, innovating, and investing in the Great Future of TNA with you.

Annie Westbrook Chair, Great Futures Campaign



2022-2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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For more information about our Great Futures Campaign,

contact Carolyn C. Sanford, Campaign Director at 412-362-2021 or carolyn.sanford@theneighborhoodacademy.org

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OUR MISSION

The Neighborhood Academy (TNA) is a faith-based college preparatory, independent Middle and High School whose mission is to break the cycle of generational poverty by empowering youth and preparing them for college and citizenship.

HISTORY

The history of the school begins in 1993, when co-founder Jodie Moore began working with at-risk adolescents in Larimer, then, and now, one of Pittsburgh's most desolate and underserved neighborhoods. What was then known as the Larimer Avenue Youth Club evolved into a nine-year summer skill-building program for at-risk 7th through 11th graders, run by The Reverend Tom Johnson in the basement of Allegheny United Church of Christ. Ms. Moore and Reverend Johnson, who met at the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, quickly realized that the psychosocial burdens of poverty weighed heavily on these students and impeded learning. They believed that if these young people could be immersed year-round in a caring environment with high expectations, they could become highly educated young people with the potential to lead fulfilling lives. With generous support from pioneering community members, this vision evolved into The Neighborhood Academy.

The college preparatory school opened its doors to its first class of 8th and 9th graders in September 2001 and has since grown to 149 students in grades 6 through 12. In 2011, the school moved to its new home at 709 N. Aiken Avenue in Pittsburgh's Stanton Heights neighborhood.

GREETINGS FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS!

It is always my privilege to write to you on behalf of the Board of Directors at The Neighborhood Academy with updates on the continued progress we are witnessing at the school. In fact, there is so much to share that I will keep my remarks brief as others will be sharing several big developments. I would like to highlight the people who are most responsible, our faculty and staff, for their dedication on the promise we make to all stakeholders: to deliver on our mission. We had the opportunity to confirm the leadership and commitment of our greatest assets (our faculty and staff) last summer when Anthony Williams went on a well-deserved three-month sabbatical. While most schools can "shut down" over the summer months, that is not possible at TNA given our extended schedule. Anthony had no doubt in the ability of Dean Shannon Prentiss and Assistant Head of School Brent Jernigan to seamlessly take the reigns and guide the school through the summer program. They were able to do so flawlessly with the help and commitment of all faculty and staff. I think this can often be lost in the shuffle but deserves a spotlight: the people who are involved at TNA on a daily basis are some of the best in the business and allow us to do the great work that we have done for over 20 years. I would like to commend them all for their devotion and tireless efforts.

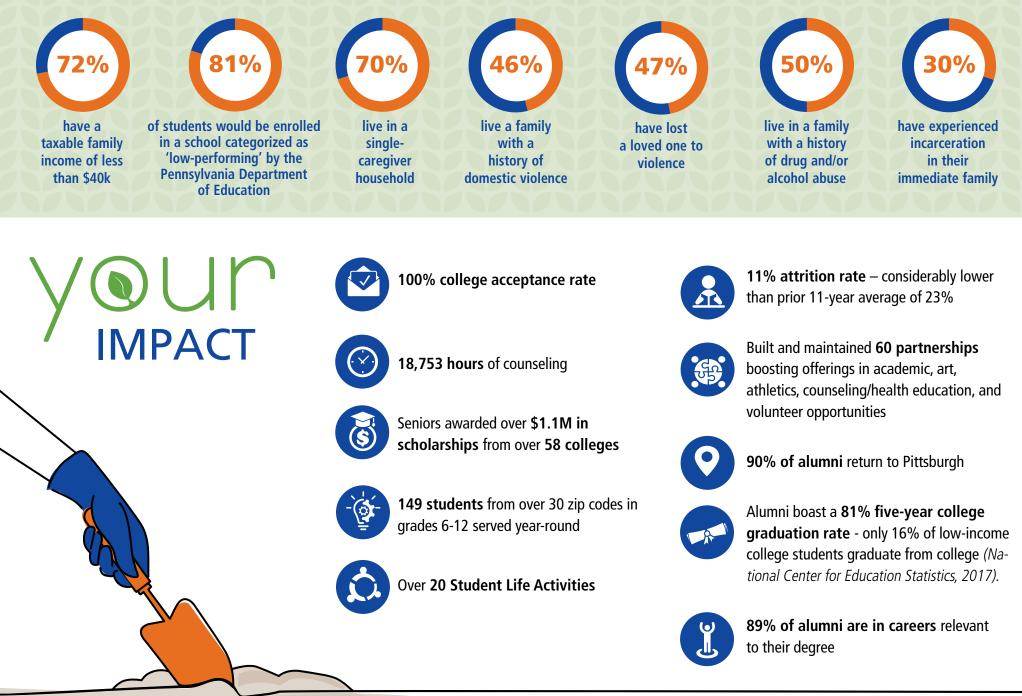
In closing, a special thanks to you, our donors, for your ongoing support, both now and as we take on larger opportunities going forward.

Warmest thanks,

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H. Edwin Haller, IV Chairman, Board of Directors

MEASURING OUR STUDENTS' CHALLENGES









THE NANCY AND PAUL O'NEILL SPEAKER SERIES

On Wednesday, September 27, 2023, we were honored to have bestselling author and former death row inmate, Anthony Ray Hinton, as our speaker for the 2023 Nancy & Paul O'Neill Speaker Series. Mr. Hinton shared his powerful thirty-year journey from wrongful imprisonment to freedom with 400 guests – our largest Speaker Series yet! That morning, Mr. Hinton spoke with TNA students to answer questions and discuss his book, "The Sun Does Shine," which every student read.

CONVOCATION

Rev. Dr. Asa Lee, President of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, was our guest speaker to kick off the 2022-2023 academic year. He believes strongly in education as the vehicle for expanding one's views of the world, and he shared helpful messages and pieces of wisdom with the entire school. Rev. Dr. Asa Lee comes to the presidency after seven years of service at Wesley Theological Seminary as Vice President for Campus Administration and Associate Dean for Community Life.









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First National Bank

UPMC HEALTH PLAN





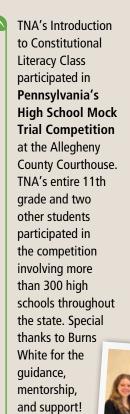
STUDENTS IN ACTION

In April 2023, TNA's 9th graders hosted a Community Slam at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Western Pennsylvania. This special event sponsored by the Will Allen Foundation — spreads awareness of youth homelessness, mental health, and gun violence. Students also collected canned foods and clothes for local organizations.

As a result of our Community Slam, seven of the students represented our region at Multiplying Good's National Youth Summit at Howard University in Washington, D.C.







TNA students, Samaira, Naya, Tyrone, and Gabriel participated in the Marshall-Brennan National Moot Court **Competition &** Conference in Washington, D.C. The team was hand-selected through TNA's Constitutional Law Class. The weekend would not have been possible without the leadership of David Herring and student volunteers from the University of Pittsburgh's School of Law.

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The Outdoor Adventure Club visited Laurel Caverns and **Ohiopyle**. From 170 feet below ground, the group weaved between rock formations that have been gradually forming for hundreds of millions of years! Afterward, the team made their way to the **Ohiopyle** Falls — Western PA's version of Niagara Falls.



TNA students had their first Outdoor Adventure Club excursion at **Slippery Rock University**. It was a day that welcomed many firsts for the students as they had the opportunity to groom, tack, feed, and ride horses. Special thanks to Storm Harbor Equestrian Center.

2022-2023 **STUDENT ACTIVITIES**

- Boys' Basketball
- Cheerleading
- Comic Book Design
- Cycling & **Bike Maintenance**
- Flag Football
- Football
- Girls' Basketball
- Girls' Volleyball
- Golf
- Hip Hop Dance
- Indoor Track
- Metalsmithing
- Photography
- Printmaking
- Stained Glass
- Track
- Visual Arts
- Wrestling

Before Thanksgiving, TNA's Outdoor Adventure Club. joined by Mark Rubenstein of Pittsburgh Youth Leadership, and TNA Board Member, Eddie Watters, braved the cold on a scenic hike along the Rachel Carson Trail in North Park. The hike featured animal sightings (deer, hawk, and heron), along with several water crossings, steep inclines and drop-offs into the creek below.

 $\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{C}$ THROUGH **EXPERIENCES**

group went out on the town to see musicals and plays such as "Hairspray", " Jagged Little Pill", " A Midsummer Night's Dream in Harlem", and "Beetlejuice The Musical".

Our Arts Excursions

SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS

- The High School Boys Basketball team advanced to the quarterfinals of the WPIAL playoffs. The team qualified for PIAA playoffs first time in school history.
- Courtney and John made the 2023 WPIAL All-Section Team for High School Boys Basketball.
- Justice was named SWPAA Eastern Conference MVP.
- The Middle School Bulldogs won the SWCAC Middle School Championship for the second year in a row.

- Jalise broke the long jump record that was 15 years old and 200m record that was 12 years old.
- 8 total school records were broken in track and field.
- Rashad medaled at WPIAL Northern Wrestling Championships, TNA's first ever wrestling medal.



Congratulations to TNA's very own, Adam and Nate, for receiving Pittsburgh Youth Leadership's Babcock Leadership Award for demonstrating the best in positive leadership on all their many biking adventures. The two cyclists were each awarded a brand-new set of wheels for commuting and future excursions. In November, **20 TNA students received their Carnegie Mellon Robotics Academy Certification**. In collaboration with the **Will Allen Foundation**, the students completed a 40-hour Fabrication Foundations class that taught proficiency in using hand tools, 3D printing, and fabricating specific robot parts.





HITTING THE TRAILS

In mid-May, a determined group of **18 cyclists** departed from TNA'scampus to cycle to **Cumberland**, **MD** via the Greater Allegheny Passage. Guided by Pittsburgh Youth Leadership, the group fought both rain and shine for 100+ miles until they reached their destination.



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"Will Allen Foundation created a program that kept our students engaged and committed! It made me so proud to see them collectively working hard to successfully complete their projects."

- Shannon Prentiss, Dean of Student Affairs

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CORPORATE PHILANTHROPY

Covestro, headquartered in Pittsburgh, is among the world's leading manufacturers of high-quality polymer materials and their components. With its innovative products, processes, and methods, the company helps enhance sustainability and the quality of life in many areas.

ACCESS, Covestro's longest-standing employee resource group (ERG) of 20 years was first established in 2003 with a mission to create African American and African Diaspora cultural awareness within Covestro. Since then, ACCESS has not only inspired the creation of 12 other ERGs at Covestro, but has also made its mark as a leader in providing "access to opportunity," bringing STEM education to classrooms throughout the Pittsburgh region.

Through this successful diversity, equity, and inclusion program, a wide range of volunteers from bench chemists to data scientists to the Head of Automotive & Industrial Coatings for Covestro-North, serve as mentors for TNA students. "The mentoring program and the Covestro ACCESS ERG employees who volunteer their time and energy to the lives of TNA students epitomizes the spirit of the Covestro culture," said Sharlene Lewis, Senior Scientist, Covestro LLC.

Initially, three volunteers worked one-on-one via Zoom with TNA senior science seminar students. The next year, five volunteers worked with the 11th graders, and this year there are 11 Covestro mentors. Each year, Covestro welcomes TNA students to tour their campus, and a handful of employees serve as judges for TNA's STEM Fair each spring. Covestro also advertises job and internship opportunities to TNA alumni.

"It is wonderful that our students can make these professional connections through ACCESS and get them passionate about STEM," said Diane Nutbrown, Ph.D., TNA Science Instructor. "It is important that our students know there are people outside of TNA who care."

Thank you, Covestro, for your ongoing support and belief in our students!





REMEMBERING MARY MARTIN TINSLEY

Mary Martin Tinsley had a wonderful personality, a beautiful smile, and believed in the value of an education, mentoring, encouraging younger women, and serving the Lord. She lived a long and rich life, and her achievements far exceeded anyone's expectations given her humble beginnings. As a result, TNA's Mary Martin Tinsley (MMT) scholarship was created by her daughter, Dr. Beverly Harris-Schenz, to continue her mother's legacy in the lives of the young women who are the chosen recipients. This scholarship is a testament to Mrs. Tinsley's determination to realize her dreams, as she received a college education late in life, after excelling in multiple careers – all while raising a family and serving her church.

Srowth R MIDDLE SCHOOL

In Maleita Moffit's African Studies Class, students were challenged with creating artistic projects to best understand and immerse themselves in their studies. While learning about ancient Egypt, students were tasked with creating their own hieroglyphics and even mummified apples using baking soda and salt. Ms. Moffit's students also delved into indigenous tribes such as the Bachwezi, Zulu, Yoruba, and many others, and had the opportunity to research a group of their choosing. Students created their own artifacts and masks, and shared their assigned tribe's culture including religious beliefs, foods, roles, and rights of passage. A third project included the students choosing one of the 54 African countries and making brochures to promote the country.

ROCK OUT!

Kristin Rubin's 6th grade science class explored the **Carnegie Museum of Natural History's Hillman Hall of Minerals and Gems** to study the wild variety of rocks and minerals, and the geography of western Pennsylvania. Rubin's 7th and 8th grade classes took a **field trip to the Carnegie Science Center** as a part of their Astronomy unit.



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STEM FAIR

In early May, students from grades 6-11 filled the hallways of TNA's academic building to present their impressive science displays to teachers, fellow students, and interested guests.

#GIRLPOWER

We continued our **FemaleFocus program** with a tour of **Federated Hermes** where the students met inspirational women from all different departments and participated in a panel discussion. This program, sponsored by **PPG Foundation**, also held a luncheon where our girls networked with female board members and learned about proper dining etiquette within a professional setting.



MIDDLE SCHOOL STATS

95% Middle School Attendance **46%** Honor Roll (final grades)



6th GRADERS

demonstrated the **highest** grade level growth in both math (+1.9) and reading (+0.7) scores compared to any other grade

7th & 8th GRADERS

both posted growth in math (+1.7 and +1.4 respectively)





BENEFITS OF MIDDLE SCHOOL

Students with middle school experience are better prepared for advanced math. 75% of Honors math students at TNA have had at least one year of middle school experience.

Students with middle school experience show higher math growth in high school. In the 9th and 10th grades, those with middle school experience grew an average of +1.5-grade levels in math, compared to +1.1 for students without the benefit of middle school.

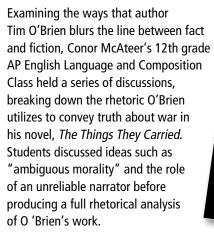
> 76% of students who attended middle school for at least one year were on Honor Roll, while only 58% of their peers were.

Before the school year began, new and returning students engaged in team-building exercises at **Laurelville Retreat Center** that encouraged strategic thinking – all through adventure and friendly competition! Special thanks to the Rob Bell Fund for making this eventful day possible.



growth the high school







TNA juniors visited the Carnegie Museum of Art and The Andy Warhol Museum. The students were immersed in a constellation of artwork from masters such as Monet and Van Gogh and visited the 58th Carnegie International.



In April, TNA's **Photography Club**, led by math instructor, Jason Scott, visited the Pittsburgh Zoo to snap some nature pics. The zoo's Education Department provided the opportunity for the Photography Club to take some close-up shots of Majeck the Macaw and Bill the Box Turtle.

Every month, TNA Paraprofessional, Shanté Eberhardt, takes a handful of students to DePaul School for Hearing and Speech to explore the field of Special Education. TNA has jumpstarted career exposure partnerships with **DePaul School and Robert Morris University** to introduce students to careers in Special Education through 1:1 mentoring, panel discussions, and interactions with professionals.

"Collaborating with RMU & DePaul has been an amazing experience! Our students have learned so much about the field of special education, a field that they may not have ever explored. This experience has challenged our students to think outside of traditional professional roles, leading some to begin to shift their idea of who they will be in the future." - Shanté



On May 25, 21 outstanding seniors donned their royal blue caps and gowns ready to take the next step on their academic journey. Third Presbyterian Church was packed with families and friends witnessing the Class of 2023 receive their diplomas. We were honored to have Dr. Kathy Wilson Humphrey, President of Carlow University, as our commencement speaker. Dr. Humphrey shared her message through her speech (and song!) and a powerful parable about a pencil maker. Faculty and leadership presented "Academy Awards" to students who went above and beyond during the academic year. TNA extends a special congratulations to Sierra Rose Riley for earning Valedictorian, and to the six other graduates who received special TNA scholarships.





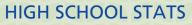






"We, as a school, have traveled an extensive journey, gained even more than anyone could ever imagine, and is still continuing on its ever-winding path."

> Sierra Rose Riley Class of 2023 Valedictorian



93%

High School Attendance

Honor Roll

58%

(final grades)

90%

Retention

100% College Acceptance

COLLEGE LIST

Bethany College (1) Carlow University (1) Chatham University (1) Community College of Allegheny County (1) Indiana University of Pennsylvania (2) Lincoln University (1) North Carolina A&T (1) Pittsburgh Technical College (1) Point Park University (2) Robert Morris University (2) Seton Hill University (1) Temple University (1) University of Pennsylvania (1) University of Pittsburgh (2) University of Pittsburgh, Greensburg (1) West Liberty University (1) Youngstown State University (1)

BLOSSOMING ALUMNI

JAMAR ROBINSON '21

Jamar has written his own personal code for a successful future. Currently a third-year student at Slippery Rock University, Jamar majors in Computing with a concentration in Information Technology (IT) and has a minor in both Information Systems and Business Administration. Aside from his academics, Jamar is involved in campus clubs and even dabbles in graphic design.

"I aim to one day land a job in web development or IT. IT is a wide field and would allow me to work with either computer hardware or computer software," he said. "Whatever I do in the future, it has to involve my 'big three': computing, business, and creativity."

To satisfy his creative side, Jamar does graphic design for club social media posts and his friend's clothing brand. He also works on personal graphic design projects as well.

At the university, he is the President of the Black Action Society, and he is the Public Relations Chair for the school's Kings Organization, which mentors and creates programming for Black men on campus.

"The Black Action Society is a student-run club that spearheads racial injustices and promotes the lifestyle of Black students in a predominantly white institution," he said. "As president, I have a lot of responsibilities and must address and schedule important things that come up all the time. I've realized that leadership is something you have to dive in and do in order to learn and understand it."

In his pursuit of excellence, Jamar reads many self-help books and takes wisdom from Curtis James Jackson III, also known professionally as rapper 50 Cent.

"50 Cent inspires me the most – he splits himself between his rapper persona and his business self. Back in 2007, he earned millions of dollars through his partnership with Vitamin Water," said Jamar. "He is not just a rapper, he is a business mogul, and I'm inspired by the way he carries himself."

A quote from 50 Cent's book *Hustle Harder, Hustle Smarter* sticks with Jamar, and he uses it to remind himself to never let an idea stay an idea; that it is important to take action. "When ideas only live in your mind, it is easy for you to lose track of them. Even if they're extremely powerful, they get lost in the stream of new information that's constantly entering your head."

KAYLYN GLENN '13

Kaylyn is a registered nurse at Forbes Hospital in Monroeville overseeing patients in the Cardiac Thoracic Intensive Care (CTICU). Kaylyn graduated from Slippery Rock University in 2017 with a major in Public Health and received her nursing degree at West Penn Hospital in 2022. She currently resides in the East End of Pittsburgh, is engaged to be married, and is pursuing her Bachelor of Nursing at Capella University.

"We perform open heart surgery at the CTICU where I am stationed, and I assist the patients in their recovery," said Kaylyn. "I see them through their entire stay at the hospital, and it is special to see them get stronger, healthier, and eventually be discharged under my care."

Kaylyn's passion for working in healthcare alongside doctors and fellow nurses came to her at an early age from her own experience as a long-term patient.

As a first-grader, Kaylyn was diagnosed with Kawasaki Disease, a rare disease in children that causes inflammation, high fever, nose bleeds, and swellings in the tongue and glands.

"I still don't know how I got it, but I was in the hospital for over a month. I was around nurses and doctors a lot," said Kaylyn. "Ever since then, I wanted to work in healthcare. I always knew in the back of my head I would."

Kaylyn said that she would one day like to switch from working in the CTICU to the Labor and Delivery unit. Kaylyn works 12-hour shifts from 7 a.m. – 7 p.m. three times a week, and often resets her mind and body at her gym: Burn Boot Camp in Murrysville.

"People always talked about nursing being a hard field – and it is," she said. "My life is work, school, and wedding planning, so I go to the gym four to five times a week to relieve stress!"

Kaylyn also enjoys traveling with her fiancé, Oshay, and together recently visited the Dominican Republic and France. They also like to embark on short, local road trips when they have time.

"Seeing that TNA is taking international trips to places like London, Barcelona, and Paris makes me want to go back!" laughed Kaylyn.

Kaylyn is happy to hear that TNA has opened a Middle School for Girls.

"I'm overjoyed to see that girls can enjoy the full middle school/high school experience and learn beside their friends from 6th grade to graduation," she said.

Or of A SENIOR



IT'S NEVER A DULL MOMENT IN TNA SENIOR **CIERRA PRICE-KNIGHT'S** WORLD. A PENN HILLS NATIVE, CIERRA'S LIFE REVOLVES AROUND COMMUNITY, COMPETITIVE SPORTS, AND AS OF LATE, COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES!

"I've been accepted to 14 colleges, and my goal is to earn a BS in Nursing," Cierra said. "While Pennsylvania has a major footprint in healthcare, I want to explore new places. Why not get out and look for more?"

Her top five schools are Morgan State University (MD), University of Akron (OH), Robert Morris University (PA), Delaware State University (DE), and Claflin University (SC).

Cierra also plans to possibly major or minor in Criminology and capitalize on her passion for investigating and problem solving.

Her schedule outside the realm of academics is jam-packed with volunteerism, sports, and self-expression.

"I'm involved at Trinity Missionary Baptist Church in Lawrenceville as a youth choir director and coordinate our holiday show and our Fourth Sunday youth scripture readings. I also like to dance, sing, and act," she said. "At TNA I play basketball and compete in track and field. I also play flag football on the side. I always like a good audience." Cierra has the record for most blocked shots in a basketball game (13). She played volleyball, currently runs the girls 200-meter sprint, and throws shot put, discus, and javelin in Field. She hopes to continue doing Track and Field in college.

Cierra's favorite memory at TNA is of her sophomore year pep rally when fellow classmate, Brent Jernigan, Jr. performed and the students stormed the basketball court in celebration. Given her competitive spirit, she always enjoys a good Blue and Orange competition – TNA's annual school-wide games.

Cierra enjoys her family and has an older brother and younger sister, who is a TNA freshman. She has a love of different cultures and cultural foods, stemming from her Jamaican parents who ran a Caribbean-inspired restaurant in East Liberty. Cierra looks forward to TNA's upcoming international trip to Italy and Greece in spring 2024 to see the sights and test her taste buds.

"Trying the foods is big for me. I'm looking forward to comparing real Italian and Greek foods with ours here in America," she said. "We'll be traveling for almost two weeks, and that will be plenty of time for me to explore the cultures."



growth through support

PAT KENNEDY

Pat is an active member at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Highland Park and finds her purpose by giving back to her community and to The Neighborhood Academy. Born and raised in Pittsburgh, Pat and her late husband lived all over the country and returned to Pittsburgh in 2002. No matter where they lived, they were always active in their faith community.

"My husband worked for Gulf Oil, and we lived north, south, east, west and eventually came back to Pittsburgh," she said. "I first heard about The Neighborhood Academy when Rev. Tom Johnson spoke at Fox Chapel Episcopal Church. My husband joined a group of gentlemen who helped prepare meals when the school was in Garfield. When we transferred to St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, that's when we really began getting involved," said Pat.

For years, St. Michael's of the Valley in Ligonier has stuffed and donated backpacks for TNA students as a back-to-school gesture. As the school began to grow larger and larger, the task of stuffing and delivering the backpacks became quite the task, and St. Michael's reached out to St. Andrew's for assistance.

"At the time, I was the head of outreach at St. Andrew's, and we were happy to help," said Pat. The backpacks are such a wonderful project, and we've been involved ever since!"

While at St. Andrew's, Pat was on the vestry twice and was also the Sr. Warden, and her service to TNA did not stop at the annual backpack donation. Three or four times a year, she and the Outreach Committee re-stock TNA's family essentials, items not covered by food stamps. She has also invited TNA leadership and alumni to update St. Andrew's congregation during their 'Minute for Ministry.'

"It's important that our congregation gets a 'Hello, Neighbor' from some of the groups we support. I want TNA to be more than just a name of a school that they hear," said Pat. "We make sure St. Andrew's Outreach Committee take tours of TNA annually to see the beautiful academic building and meet the students," said Pat.

To give back for all the support, TNA students rake leaves and do some minor landscaping on St. Andrew's grounds.

To keep her mind sharp, Pat takes classes through the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute hosted by the University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon University.

"After one of my classes, I asked the instructor if he was familiar with The Neighborhood Academy, since he taught at Pittsburgh Public Schools. He said to me, 'There should be 30 Neighborhood Academies in Pittsburgh'... The work the school does, the students, the whole approach is so different from public schools. It's beautiful." **THE REVEREND KARIE CHARLTON** OF GREEN TREE WAS THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR AT THIRD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FROM 2014 TO 2023, AND HER PERSONAL VOCATION HAS ALWAYS BENEFITED THE STUDENTS AND MISSION OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD ACADEMY.

Third Presbyterian Church was an 'Over The Bridge' donor which supports the cost of educating a student for three years. Rev. Charlton always had a special connection with their sponsored student, Anthony Duckett '20.

"The church has a community bulletin board, and anytime I saw Anthony featured on social media or had any news about him, I would post it on the board," said Rev. Charlton. "Anthony was a very bright student, won science awards, and was on the basketball team. I would meet with him at TNA's graduations at Third Presbyterian Church, and even went to a Pirates game with him."

"Rev. Tom Johnson's father was the previous sexton at Third Presbyterian Church. I always heard stories of Tom wearing his football pads and running the stairs of the church for condition training when he was in high school," said Rev. Charlton. "It was always fun when he visited the building as an adult. He always had a story to tell – the man is a legend." Like many, Rev. Charlton's favorite memory of TNA is walking through the doors of the academic building and being greeted by the students, faculty, and staff.

"Someone at the door is always happy to see you at TNA. When I first walked into the school, I was greeted by name, offered a beverage, and took a tour," said Rev. Charlton. "The students glow! And it is clear that the building is very special to them."

After meeting with TNA's former Director of Counseling Services, Debbie Krochka, and former English Instructor, Jennifer Kane, Rev. Charlton got involved in TNA's chapel services, teacher orientation, and teaching menstrual health to the female students.

Rev. Charlton has been donating to The Neighborhood Academy through automatic monthly donations since 2017.

"My TNA donation leaves my bank account on the same day my paycheck arrives. For me, giving isn't a sacrifice, and with automatic donations, I don't even notice!" said Rev. Charlton. "I live in abundance of what remains after giving." Please contact Landis Erwin, Director of Development, at 412-626-6851 x104 or landis.erwin@theneighborhoodacademy.org if you are interested in setting up automatic monthly donations. 1.

the point at which a plan or project is realized.

. the state of bearing fruit.

DEAR FRIENDS,

I am overjoyed to announce that The Neighborhood Academy has achieved its second Pennsylvania Association of Independent Schools (PAIS) 10-year accreditation. This state-facilitated accreditation ensures that member schools are not only rooted in best practices, but are deemed safe, equitable, and deliver high quality education. Through this rigorous but vital year-long process, The Neighborhood Academy proved that we meet and maintain the PAIS's 26 essential standards of excellence.

During this process, we had the opportunity to reflect on our offerings as an independent college preparatory school, look inward at our model... and begin planting seeds for **growth**.

Earlier in 2023, I was selected as a recipient of a nonprofit sabbatical program funded by The Richard King Mellon and McCune Foundations. During this time from late May through August, I had the opportunity to tend to my physical and mental wellness, and most importantly, be present in the lives of my family. I also had the chance to sharpen my vision for the direction of The Neighborhood Academy.

Upon returning to the school, I was greeted by 167 exceptional students, 40 stalwart faculty and staff, and a resolute community grounded in our mission.

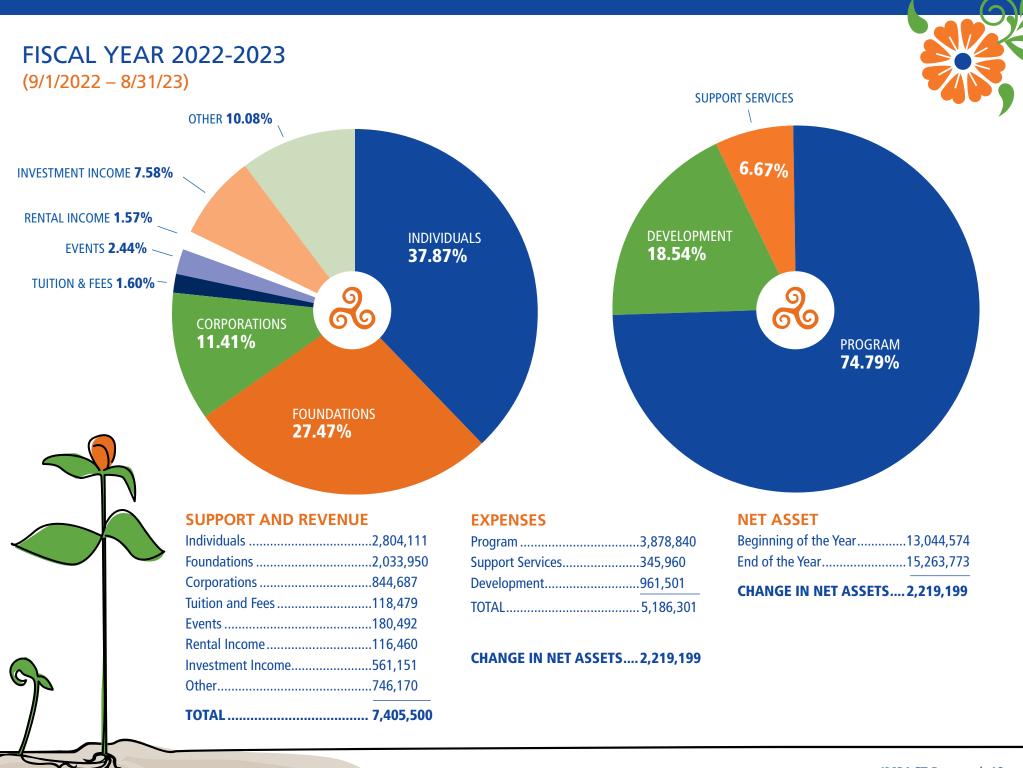
The theme of this annual report is '**growth**,' and through strategic planning and execution, The Neighborhood Academy will continue stretching upward, advancing the future of the school.

During the 2023-2024 academic year, we welcomed 16 confident and motivated girls as the inaugural cohort of our Middle School for Girls. Since opening in 2017, our Middle School for Boys has been hugely successful. Although the boys and girls will be educated separately in grades 6-8, these middle schools will draw parallel opportunities for equitable outcomes. Opening a Middle School for Girls will **grow** our school enrollment by 33% over the next three years – setting The Neighborhood Academy up to educate well over 200 students for the first time in the history of the school.

Our capital campaign is underway to bring our plans for *growth* to fruition. The campaign will fund the physical expansion of our school with an innovative wing, strengthen our college counseling and graduate support program, and *grow* endowment and reserve funds to ensure future sustainability. I would like to personally thank board member, Annie Westbrook, for serving as Chair of the Great Futures Campaign, and for always advocating for our school. As I reflect on the **growth** of our school in the past five years of my leadership at The Neighborhood Academy, it is crystal clear that none of this is possible without your steadfast and admirable belief in our mission. I look forward to sharing our future with you. Through your support, our students will continue to blossom into future leaders that we desire to see in our homes, our city, our Neighborhood.

Inthe William

Anthony P. Williams, Ph.D. TNA Head of School



IMPACT Report | 18

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KEY:

- * Board
- # Deceased
- \$ Staff

(OTB) Over the Bridge -

These donors support the cost of educating a student for three or more years at a cost of \$25,000 per student per year.

(B&O) Blue & Orange Society -(\$24,999-\$20,000; three-year pledge)

(BDS) Bull Dog Society -(\$19,999-\$1,000; three-year pledge)

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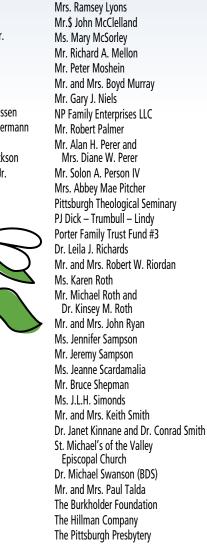
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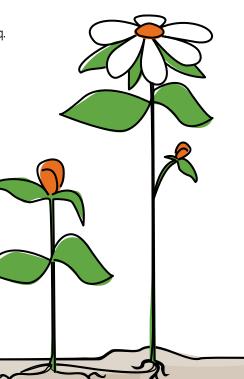
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