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Corporate & Foundation Giving Opportunities

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### **ABOUT THE SUE DUNCAN CHILDREN'S CENTER**

Established in 1961, the Sue Duncan Children's Center can be narrowly defined as an after-school program; however, the success of its grassroots approach to advancing inner-city children academically and socially has been legendary. There are few, if any, non-religious programs in the nation that operate on such a personal level with each child, and share the level of results using very minimal resources and exposure. Children who participate in Center programming reach their full potential and exceed statistical expectations drastically.

The Center services grades pre-K through 12, predominantly African American students living below the poverty line. Our programming has proven to be a highly effective model for youth development within this demographic. The curriculum combines moral support with academic, athletic and artistic resources that include homework completion, field trips, exercise and sports recreation, a healthy food program, music lessons, guided discussions on social issues, and special projects focusing on everything from writing/self-publishing, math skill-building, practicing yoga/meditation, gardening, conflict resolution, film production and other opportunities for creative expression through art. Staff members focus on supporting the whole child, fostering academic achievement along with emotional and social well-being. This approach engenders an intellectual curiosity and a natural love of learning.

The student success rate is phenomenal. 100% of the children who attend show measurable progress with their grades, test scores, behavior, self-esteem, and planning for the future. Students from neighborhoods where drug abuse, teen pregnancy and gang violence are prevalent beat the odds and go on to make significant contributions to society as engineers, doctors, lawyers, educators, police officers, fire fighters, servicemen and women, well-known athletes, actors, and musicians, community leaders and business owners. Countless alumni from all over the country, spanning several generations, credit the Center for being the turning point in their lives.

Programming is facilitated at two elementary schools on Chicago's south side. The Center rents classrooms inside the schools which means significantly lower overhead and more funding going directly toward programming. Although the schools are separate entities, they serve as convenient locations where students, parents and educators can easily access services. Center staff is also afforded greater access to teachers and receive referrals from administration. This creates a functional triangle of communication between teachers, parents and Center staff regarding individual student progress as part of the "village" approach. Enrollment is not limited to the students attending the schools where the Center is housed with participants representing over 20 elementary and high schools.

#### Original Oakland Campus

Housed inside Jackie Robinson Elementary School at 4225 S. Lake Park Avenue. Oakland is bounded by 43rd Street to the south, 35th Street to the north, Lake Shore Drive to Cottage Grove Avenue (800 E) when south of Pershing Road (3900 S), and Vincennes Avenue north of Pershing Road).

#### Woodlawn Campus (opened in September 2013)

Housed inside John Fiske Elementary School at 6020 S. Langley Avenue. Woodlawn is bounded by Lake Michigan to the east, 60th Street to the north, Martin Luther King Drive to the west, and, mostly, 67th Street to the south.

**GIVING OPPORTUNITIES AT THE SUE DUNCAN CHILDREN'S CENTER COVER THE FOLLOWING AREAS:**

- EXTENDED SERVICES (NAMING OPPORTUNITY)
- EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
- EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING
- CHILDREN'S HEALTH
- ARTISTIC PROGRAMMING
- TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES

*CORPORATE & FOUNDATION SUPPORTERS OF THE SUE DUNCAN CHILDREN CENTER RECEIVE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT ON ALL MARKETING MATERIALS, INCLUDING OUR WEBSITE.*

**STAFF CONTACT**

*Corporations and foundations interested in supporting the programs detailed on the following pages can contact:*

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### **EXTENDED SERVICES (NAMING OPPORTUNITY)**

In response to increased enrollment and the growing need for our services in other neighborhoods, the Sue Duncan Children's Center is launching additional campuses on Chicago's south side to provide broader support to children and families. Through the New Communities Project, community investors can partner with the trusted and time-proven Sue Duncan brand to deepen the Center's impact and long-term sustainability, including naming opportunities for new campuses. The Center opened a second campus serving the Woodlawn neighborhood in September of 2013 and will open a third campus serving Englewood during the 2014-15 school year. Each new campus will maintain the Center's high standard of excellence by duplicating the top-level academic tutoring and social adjustment provided at the original Oakland neighborhood campus for over 52 years. Contributions go a long way because the Center facilitates its programming inside local elementary schools which cuts down on overhead costs significantly, allows staff to focus students and maintaining the excellence of our programming, and puts the Center at a convenient location where students, parents and educators can easily access it.

NAMING OPPORTUNITY \$200,000

*Corporations and foundations that give \$200,000 or more over a 2 year period to the New Communities Project will gain naming rights for a new campus.*

### **EMPLOYMENT**

The Sue Duncan Children's Center not only nurtures the educational advancement of its children, we support entire families by providing employment opportunities to parents and alumni, and after school jobs for teenagers. As part of the village approach, parent involvement is strongly emphasized in our culture of learning. By working at the Center, parents can play an active role in their child's development daily as well as other children in their neighborhood. The teens employed serve as role models for the younger children as they watch the older participants progress from being students at the Center to responsible, hard-working employees.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES \$50,000

*The employment program at the Center includes entry-level part-time tutors and youth supervisors.*

### **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING**

Each child at the Sue Duncan Children's Center is assigned a tutor based on what work they need to accomplish. The Center keeps a low tutor-to-student ratio of 1 tutor to no more than 5 students in a group (as opposed to Chicago Public School requiring no more than 32 kids per teacher and often climbing to as many as 40 students).

While it is a priority for staff and tutors to strengthen students' core academic skills, complete homework and get help with school projects, the Center's educational enhancement programming goes well beyond assigned schoolwork. All students have opportunities each day to have one-on-one discussions with tutors and older elementary school students (3rd through 6th graders) participate in a group lesson/discussion, which can consist of anything from math skill-building to a conversation about social issues. It is an environment designed for children of all ages and the curriculum is built around the older and younger children learning from each other. Many students become a part of this village of learning as early as the

baby/toddler stage and are often advanced to a higher grade when they begin traditional schooling because they are found to be more socially and academically prepared than most children in their age group.

8-WEEK SUMMER PROGRAM	\$25,000
ENHANCEMENT CURRICULUM	\$10,000

### **CHILDREN'S HEALTH**

The Sue Duncan Children's Center understands the connection between healthy bodies and healthy brains. From our 50-plus years of experience, we know that children who do not have regular, nutritionally balanced diets, or who do not have time or safe space for recreational exercise, face additional struggles in school. Through the NEEDS Project (Nutrition, Education and Exercise with Doctors' Support), the Center provides nutritionally healthy meals, adequate exercise, and health education support. Before the children leave the Center each day, they receive a hot and nutritious meal prepared by Center staff, participate in holistic activities such as yoga, and exercise in the gymnasium through team sports and games. Children also grow some of the foods served through our gardening activities which teach valuable agriculture concepts, inexpensive ways to eat healthy and bring them in contact with natural processes.

NEEDS PROJECT	\$20,000
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*Funding covers one year of nutritious meals (the Center serves 100 meals per day), athletic programming, recreational activities and health education support.*

### **ARTISTIC PROGRAMMING**

Arts education has a tremendous impact on the developmental growth of children and has proven to help level the learning field across socio-economic boundaries. Yet 42% of Chicago's elementary schools lack full funding for arts and music teachers, even though the Department of Education called arts and music education particularly beneficial for students from economically disadvantaged circumstances and those who are at risk of not succeeding in school. For many of the students who attend the Sue Duncan Children's Center, its programming is the only exposure to arts education they receive.

Artistic programming at the Center involves creative engagement through musical instrument lessons, storytelling, poetry, film, music, drawing, painting, song and creative writing. Each year, students third grade and above contribute to the creation of an anthology of powerful stories that give students an opportunity to vent their thoughts about real life experiences and become published authors. All projects encourage students to connect their artistic creations to the broader world.

ARTISTIC PROGRAMMING	\$10,000
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**TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES**

Although access to computers and the Internet is critical to social, economic and academic progress in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, a majority of the Center's students do not have the equipment at home to complete homework assignments, conduct supportive research and communicate with teachers outside the classroom. The issue of the digital divide comes down to affordability. The Center serves some of the city's poorest neighborhoods and majority of its residents live below the poverty line. As a result, almost 100% of the children are economically disadvantaged (as determined by free school lunch eligibility). As the Center opens new campuses in other impoverished neighborhoods, its technological needs will continue to increase.

TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES

\$10,000

*Technology resources include laptops, kindles, smart boards, copier, printers and software.*