2016 ANNUAL REPORT

children's scholarship fund



# OUR CITY. YOUR CHOICE. THEIR CHANCE.

# **Our Mission**

## SCHOLARSHIPS FOR K-8TH GRADERS

Children's Scholarship Fund Philadelphia (CSFP) is a privately-funded program whose mission is to provide children from low-income Philadelphia families with financial access to quality, safe, K-8th grade, tuition-based schools, thereby increasing their long-term economic and social success. CSFP grants need-based scholarships to Philadelphia children, all of which are awarded by random lottery.

# DEMAND



26% Philadelphia poverty rate12% Deep Poverty rate(highest of top ten largestUS cities)



**78%** CSFP children qualify for free/reduced school lunch



**\$29,000** Average CSFP household income



**10,000** Applications received for CSFP's 2,000 new awards



**79%** Philadelphia public K-8th grade schools on PA's list of lowest-performing schools

# IMPACT



**20,500** CSFP scholarships awarded



**\$66 million** CSFP's program investment in low-income children



**5,300** Current K-8th grade CSFP students



**160** quality private schools that partner with CSFP



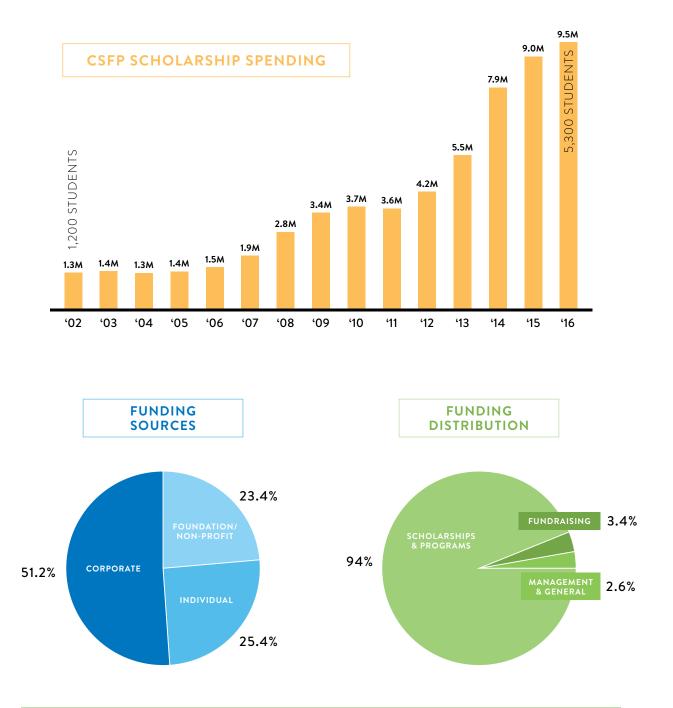
**96%** CSFP alumni graduate high school on time, with the skills they need to succeed in college or vocational training



Charity Navigator, the country's most demanding charity watchdog, awarded CSFP a perfect score on all evaluation metrics. **CSFP is one of only three education-based charities in the nation to receive a perfect score.**  CSFP ALUMNUS SANTIAGO VALLEJO, WITH FELLOW ALUMNUS AND BROTHER TOMÁS, AT CSFP'S 2016 STUDENT AWARD CEREMONY

"I have seen the sacrifices my parents have made for me ... including working multiple jobs to give us a better life. It is because of them that I believe in working hard, day in and day out, to make my dreams come true so that one day I can give something back to the community that has opened up so many opportunities for my family."

SANTIAGO VALLEJO, CSFP ALUMNUS ATTENDING EASTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY



In 2016, CSFP earned a perfect score on Charity Navigator's rigorous financial rubric, placing us in the top 1% of the 8,000 charities ranked by the independent evaluator. Charity Navigator also listed CSFP as a top-ten



privately-funded charity. This recognition highlights CSFP's commitment to good governance and maximizing donor investment, thereby benefiting even more children.

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# Dear Friends,

In 2001, Children's Scholarship Fund Philadelphia (CSFP) began with a vision and a promise: to help thousands of Philadelphia children from low-income families succeed by providing them with access to quality K-8th grade schools. Over our 15 year history, we have seen that vision realized, awarding 20,500 four-year scholarships. In 2016, we successfully completed our \$62 million *Campaign for 10,000 Children*, allowing us to respond to the tremendous demand for access to better educational options. CSFP is deeply grateful to our generous community of friends and supporters.

CSFP is committed to expanding education opportunities and enrichment activities for our students and their families. In 2016, CSFP started our Parent Ambassador program and launched a new database to more efficiently manage scholarships. We changed the timing of our scholarship application season to allow for more quality school options for families. This fall, CSFP launched the first ever K-8th grade Citywide School Fair, free to all Philadelphia families. Participants included district, public charter, and private schools.

In December 2016, Charity Navigator gave CSFP a **perfect score**, one of just three education-based nonprofits in the nation to earn that honor. This recognition reflects our commitment to leverage investment dollars to serve as many children and families in need as possible. Of course, neither our innovations, nor our honors, would be possible without the trust and support of our generous community of friends. Thank you for sharing our belief that education IS the answer!

We look forward to working with you in school year 2017-2018. <u>Together</u>, we will continue to change young lives and impact the future of Philadelphia.

Thank you.

in

**Evie McNiff** President of the Board

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Children's Scholarship Fund Philadelphia would like to thank its 2016 donors for their shared leadership, vision and support.

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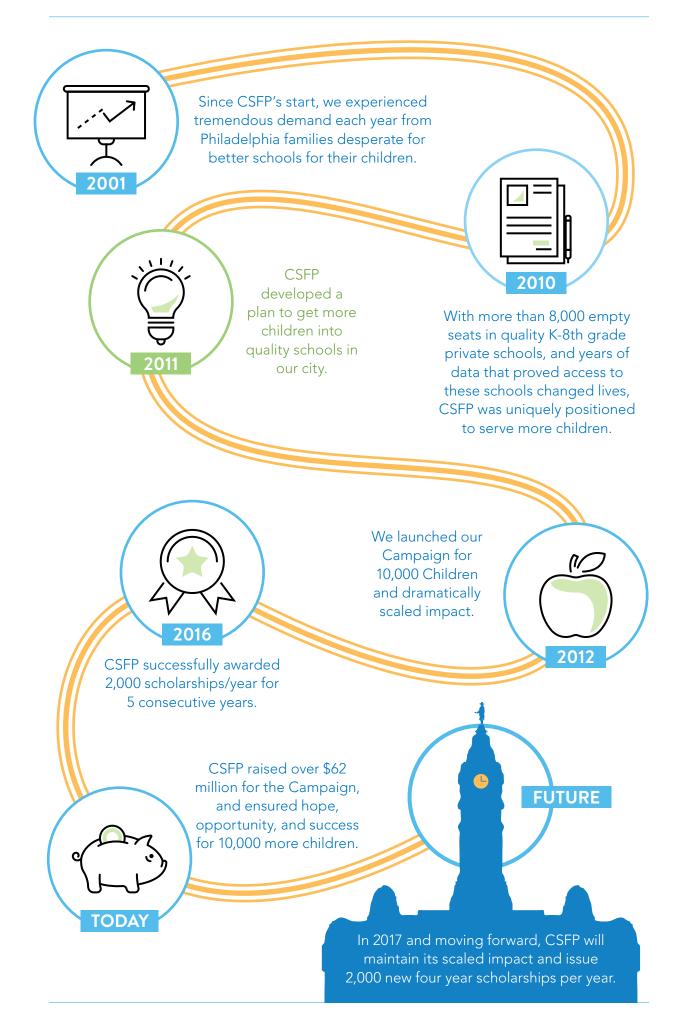
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Independence Mission Schools

\* This list represents gifts \$250 and above received in calendar year 2016. We apologize in advance for any errors or omissions. For a complete list of CSFP donors please visit csfphiladelphia.org/support.

# Moving Forward After A Successful Campaign



## Parent Ambassador Program

Under this new initiative, 13 CSFP parents were appointed as school and scholarship program liaisons for other families. The Parent Ambassadors steward new families and strengthen CSFP's relationships in partner schools.

## Application Launch @ Please Touch Museum

CSFP opened our scholarship application season early with a kickoff event in September 2016, which drew a crowd of 500 families. This new timeframe gives applicants and lottery winners more time to explore school options and secure spots in their top-choice schools.



# Citywide K-8th Grade School Fair

The first of its kind in Philadelphia, CSFP hosted private, district, charter, and parochial schools, for a free, open-to-the-public fair. Over 1,000 parents met with admissions and school representatives and learned about free family resources.

# 2016 **Lottery Day**

"Yes! Oh my gosh, thank you," said Naimah Buckner of South Philadelphia, who never dreamed a high quality education for her girls would come true, in one quick phone call. -CBSPhilly

THE INCLURER &

POWERED

# In The Press

CSFP was recognized in national and local news 38 times in 2016, with highlights in these outlets:



PHILADELPHIA TRIBUNE

"It's **incredible** what one year of quality **education** can do.

My son can read, write at grade level, and is **excited** to go to school every day...I am so **thankful** for everyone at CSFP and **hopeful** for the **future**."

> KADAPHY CSFP PARENT

100 South Broad Street Suite 1200 Philadelphia, PA 19110 www.csfphiladelphia.org 215.670.8411 @csfphiladelphia

# PHIADELPHIA children's scholarship fund