



2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Helping Others Help Themselves

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”

NELSON MANDELA

GRACE PLACE IS AN EDUCATIONAL TOUCHSTONE FOR THE GOLDEN GATE COMMUNITY.

Reports show that the most substantial challenges facing our country – rising crime and school dropout rates, increasing health-care costs, the importance of competing in the world marketplace – can most effectively be addressed by concentrating resources on the social and educational development of our children. At Grace Place, we are committed to breaking the cycle of poverty by helping others help themselves by way of an education.



OUR FAMILIES

85% live at or below the national poverty line

99% are non-English speaking households

88% of the parents in the household have less than a high school education

35% of the parents in the household have less than a 5th grade education

LETTER FROM LEADERSHIP



2012 - 2013 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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“Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime.”

This famous adage portrays well the beliefs and aspirations of Grace Place. Our programs provide knowledge and skills to those with limited resources and offer them an opportunity to help themselves build a more prosperous future for their families and their future generations. At Grace Place, we believe helping others help themselves is the best way to make a true and lasting difference in the lives of the children and families in Golden Gate city.

Throughout its history, Grace Place has built a considerable momentum. In just nine years we have grown from a small homework club to a neighborhood center enrolling over 800 individuals in our effective array of educational programs. We have cultivated a qualified staff and dedicated volunteer team, and established community-wide support with a strong base of partnerships. We have accomplished strong fiscal growth each year, established a reserve fund and purchased our campus and existing buildings.

The 2012-2013 year was marked with many milestones. We completed a major renovation of the Pfouts Family Chapel, which brought six new classrooms of multi-purpose program space. We established an endowment fund, positioning Grace Place for long-term sustainability. With our significant growth came the need for new and expanded leadership positions. We welcomed our first CFO/COO with the addition of Dave Tobiasz and augmented the position of Development Manager with a new Director of Development, Barbara Evans. Our Bright Beginnings program received national recognition as the newest program provider for the Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy network. Our signature fundraising event, A Swing of Grace, brought in over \$70,000, doubling the net of its inaugural year.

These accomplishments would not have been possible without your generous support. Grace Place has made immense strides in its brief history, but still strives to make a greater impact. As you flip through the following pages, keep in mind that in directing your passion and resources to Grace Place you're investing in our mission to break the cycle of poverty by teaching literacy, language and life skills.

Stephanie Munz Campbell
Executive Director

Phillip J. Plessinger
Chair of the Board of Directors

SCHOOL AGE PROGRAMS

“A meta-analysis of 68 after-school studies concluded that high quality after-school programs can lead to improved attendance, behavior and coursework. Students participating in a high quality after-school program went to school more, behaved better, received better grades and did better on tests compared to nonparticipating students (Durlak, Weissberg, & Pachan, 2010).”



2012-2013 AP LEADER STATS:

100% high school graduation rate

100% advanced to college or military service

ACADEMY OF LEADERS

The mission of the Academy of Leaders after-school program is to improve student achievement in core academic subjects, develop leadership habits and provide opportunities for students to learn the 21st century skills needed to be college and career ready.

AP LEADERSHIP

Golden Gate High School's graduation rate of 69 percent is the lowest in Collier County (2011). The mission of AP Leadership is to break the cycle of poverty by ensuring these students graduate from high school, seek continued higher education and enter the workforce as hard-working, prepared professionals.

“I applied to be an AP Leader because I want to go to a good college and become an educator so I can give others the gift of an education. I know the AP Leadership program at Grace Place is a resource that can help me get there. I have been in the Program for three years now. I've learned how to be a leader at Grace Place. They have helped me prepare for the ACT test and understand how the college application process works. I feel so much more prepared and confident about what's ahead of me. I really feel like my possibilities are endless. It's exciting.”

Yesica, AP Leader

BRIGHT BEGINNINGS

IN 2012-2013, BRIGHT BEGINNINGS SUCCESSFULLY REGISTERED 94% OF THE PARTICIPATING CHILDREN IN HEAD START OR VPK.

The mission of Bright Beginnings is to cultivate confident, capable and literate parents prepared to guide their child through the crucial years of early development and successfully prepare them to transition to formal schooling at a level with their peers.

There is a noted gap in the early development of children from households with low-income in comparison to children from more privileged economic circumstances. Bright Beginnings addresses this obstacle two-fold, teaching the child and the parent together.

“Children who do not recognize the letters of the alphabet when they enter kindergarten demonstrate significantly lower reading skills at the end of first grade. Eighty-eight percent of children who are poor readers in first grade will still be poor readers by fourth grade. Seventy-four percent of children who are poor readers in third grade remain poor readers when they start high school (Pre-K Now).”

“We know how to take care of and love our children, but we don't know the importance of playing educational games and reading to them. Being a mother is not just about changing the diapers and feeding the baby; it's about teaching them about living. When we [the mothers] leave everyday we feel more confident about how we are parenting.”

Claudia, Bright Beginnings Mom



ADULT ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERACY



The mission of the Adult English Language and Literacy Program is to furnish the knowledge and skills necessary for adult learners to succeed in the acquisition of the English language and to nurture the assimilation process to the culture of the United States.

"When I first came to Grace Place I could speak only a few words of English; Creole is my native language. It was a real problem for me at work. I am a Resident Assistant at a senior living community and I couldn't understand the 911 operator's questions. If I had a problem, I couldn't tell my boss. I have been at Grace Place for two years and it has changed my life. Now I can communicate with my boss, the people at work and in my everyday life. It's such an incredible gift I have been given. I am so happy. Thank you."

Marie, Adult ELL Learner



FRIDAY FOOD PANTRY

The Friday Food Pantry supports Grace Place's mission by meeting the basic need for nourishment and health that is essential for strong mental and physical development. Since its opening in 2008, the Food Pantry has become the largest distribution channel for the Harry Chapin Food Bank in Collier County and is a crucial service to the community. In 2012, over 1,500 families used the food pantry to meet emergency family food needs.

CHANGE AGENTS “IN THEIR OWN WORDS”

We are a volunteer driven organization. Our 220 regular volunteers, combined with 500 volunteers that give their time throughout the year, represent a monetized value of over \$500,000 a year. Our dedicated volunteers, together with our exceptional Florida Certified teachers - including two Golden Apple Teachers, two Teachers of Distinction and a Teacher of the Year - make the work we do possible. Together we are committed to breaking the cycle of poverty through education.



JERRY SKIDMORE 3 years, Adult ELL Volunteer

“I didn't realize until I started volunteering at Grace Place how poorly equipped these immigrants are to fit into our society. They are very genuine people; they want to assimilate. They want to get better jobs, but if you can't speak the language you are very limited. They work very hard to better themselves, but the important thing for them - they want a better life for their kids. They seem to appreciate the opportunity they have found at Grace Place and in this country. It's rewarding to be a part of it.”



STAN RUSSELL 1 year, Board Member, 8 years, Food Pantry Volunteer

“It's rewarding seeing the people we are helping. The community we are serving is a wonderful community, they are very family oriented and they care so much for their children. They remind me of the wave of immigration that we had in the 1900s, seeking a better life for their family. It's going to change our society for the better. These are good, hardworking people with good values. They want to learn, they want to make a better life, and they just need help. I especially enjoy seeing the kids from the educational programs volunteer in the food pantry. It's neat to see that they want to give back.”



LEO AND GAIL KING 8 years, Academy of Leaders Volunteers

“We're big advocates for intervening in a child's life. You never know when you are going to make that impact that changes everything. These parents love their children, but they're often working two jobs trying to make ends meet. You can see how much they want a different life for their children and they are so grateful to us when we see them on campus. That's why we're here. We want to help set these children up for life and giving them an education is the best way we know to do that. It's our great hope.”

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS.

FINANCIALS

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS

Operating Funds	519,957
Capital Development Funds	477,537
Endowment	25,000

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Pledges Receivable	802,776
Total Other Current Assets	93,959

TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS

1,919,229

FIXED ASSETS

Fixed Assets	2,171,378
Accumulated Depreciation	(253,545)
Total Net Fixed Assets	1,917,833

TOTAL ASSETS

3,837,062

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

LIABILITIES

Total Current Liabilities	74,834
Mortgage Payable	748,414

TOTAL LIABILITIES

823,248

TOTAL EQUITY

3,013,814

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

3,837,062

SOURCES

General Donations	1,034,975
Directed Donations	95,192
Capital Donations	425,400

TOTAL FUNDS RECEIVED

1,555,567

USES

Operating Expenses	1,002,331
Capital Fund	425,400
Directed Spending	56,464
Directed Funds (held for later use)	38,728
Endowment	25,000

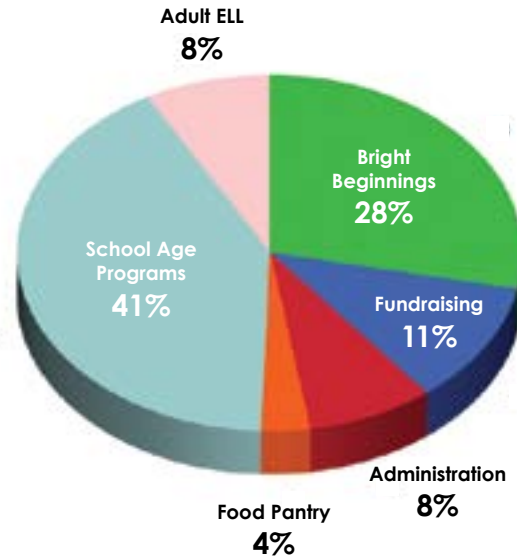
TOTAL FUNDS USED

1,547,923

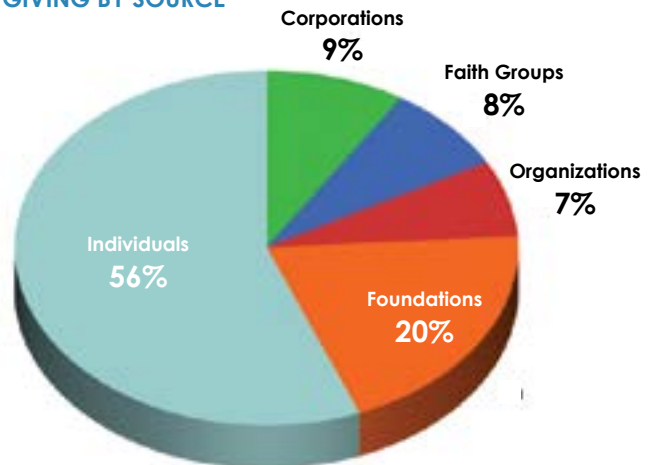
EXCESS OF FUNDS RECEIVED OVER FUNDS USED

7,644

OPERATIONAL USAGE OF FUNDS



GIVING BY SOURCE



CHANGE AGENTS DONOR HONOR ROLL

We are thankful for the many generous investors who support our mission to teach literacy, language and life skills. The Donor Honor Roll gratefully acknowledges gifts made between August 1, 2012 and July 31, 2013. Grace Place appreciates the many donors at all levels of giving, many of whom give anonymously. Your investment makes a difference.

ORGANIZATIONS

Benefactor's Circle (\$50,000 - \$99,999)

United Way of Collier County, Inc.

Scholar's Circle (\$25,000 - \$49,999)

Christ Child Society of Naples

President's Circle (\$10,000 - \$24,999)

The League Club of Collier County
Professional Givers Anonymous of Collier County

Educator's Circle (\$1,000 - \$4,999)

Cool Cruisers of Southwest Florida
Hunters Ridge Community Association
Naples Garden Club
Naples Gulfshore Rotary Club
Ronald McDonald House Charities
Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southwest Florida
Social Interclub Bridge of Southwest Florida
Stonebridge Book Club

FOUNDATIONS AND FAMILY FOUNDATIONS

Benefactor's Circle (\$50,000 - \$99,999)

The Lima Community Foundation

Scholar's Circle (\$25,000 - \$49,999)

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Dean's Circle (\$5,000 - \$9,999)

American Endowment Foundation
Community Foundation of Collier County
Dollar General Literacy Foundation
Fidelity Brokerage Services LLC
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Educator's Circle (\$1,000 - \$4,999)

Birtwistle Family Foundation
ExxonMobil Foundation
GE Foundation
KeyBank Foundation
Mills Family Charitable Foundation
Naples Gulfshore Rotary Foundation Inc.
The Phillips Family Foundation
Renaissance Charitable Foundation Inc.

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Arthrex, Inc.

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McLean Engineering
Naples Area Board of Realtors
Pergola, Inc.

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First National Bank of the Gulf Coast
IBERIABANK
Key Private Bank
Stifel Nicolaus & Company
Surroundings, Inc.
Telecom Solutions USA
Waste Management

FAITH GROUPS

President's Circle (\$10,000 - \$24,999)

Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Florida Annual Conference United Methodist Church
Marco Lutheran Church
Naples United Church of Christ
North Naples United Methodist Church
St. John's Episcopal Church

Dean's Circle (\$5,000 - \$9,999)

Moorings Presbyterian Church
United Church Of Marco Island

Educator's Circle (\$1,000 - \$4,999)

Cornerstone United Methodist Church
Covenant Church of Naples
First Presbyterian Church of Naples
First Presbyterian Church of Naples Presbyterian Women
First United Methodist Church
Life Christian Church
North Naples United Methodist Church Women's Group
St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church
The Lighthouse Church of Boca Grande
United Methodist Women of the Boca Grande United Methodist Church
Unity of Naples
Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church
Wesley United Methodist Church
Women of the ELCA Emmanuel

INDIVIDUALS

Patron's Circle (\$100,000 - \$250,000)

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Anonymous

Benefactor's Circle (\$50k - \$99,999)

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of Collier County
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John and Betty Whealy
Ed and Allison White
Jeffrey and Lisbeth Wilson
Carol Winkle
Robert Wooster

**Grace Place would also like to thank its many
community partners, for a complete list,
please visit our website.**

THANK YOU DONORS.

OUR MISSION

The mission of Grace Place is to be a faith-based nonprofit neighborhood center to break the cycle of poverty by teaching literacy, language and life skills to children and families at-risk in Golden Gate City.



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