



ANNUAL
REPORT
2017-2018

MIDTOWN EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION



Inspiring student success



Gold Star Mentoring Program



Generosity Breeds Happiness

In a nutshell, MEF is in the business of spreading happiness. How? By helping at-risk kids rise above challenging circumstances and acquire habits and attitudes that lead to lasting success.

Those habits range from the academic (working to excel in math even when you think it's boring) to the virtuous (serving your neighbor when no one is watching, or telling the truth when doing so is uncomfortable). Such habits build character, one act at a time. As one deeply experienced staff member memorably wrote, "Our challenge is to make kids understand that character education is not just some silly class. This stuff will make you happy."

Such is the work that goes on all year long at the Midtown Center for boys and Metro Achievement Center for girls.

But the happiness spreads to our donors, too. That's because, according to author Elizabeth Svoboda, human beings are hard-wired to be generous. She cites brain science showing that altruism causes a part of the midbrain to light up—the part related to pleasure.

Our students also learn about generosity at Midtown and Metro. When you come from a neighborhood deemed "disadvantaged," it is a fresh and powerful message.

We thank the generous individuals and businesses whose names appear in the following pages, in the hope that they have experienced the genuine happiness that comes from giving.



John J. Conroy, Jr.
President, Board of Directors



Glenn Wilke
Executive Director



“MEF provides kids with a friend and a coach who’s asking: Where do you want to go? How do you think you’re going to get there? And what can we do to help you get there?”

Charles W. Mulaney, Jr. -
Partner, **Skadden, Arps, Slate,
Meagher & Flom**

Chip Mulaney with Metro Achievement Center alumni Emily Orozco and Casandra Vences



“Education is the core of what they do. But it’s really so much more. MEF provides a well-rounded, safe and loving environment that helps all the kids increase their probability of success.”

Kristi Ross -
Co-CEO and President, **tastytrade**

Kristi Ross at MEF's 27th Annual Reach for Excellence Awards Dinner

its work over time—all faithful **champions of Chicago's at-risk youth.**



Longtime MEF advocate Mary Presberg

“I’ve witnessed firsthand the incredible impact of MEF’s work in our communities. The organization truly delivers on its mission.”

Mary Presberg -
Financial Services Partner, **PwC**



Michael Gray (far left) and members of the Discover legal team following a mock trial with students in the Midtown Center’s Summer Law Apprenticeship

“Even after four years of leading volunteers and Midtown students in the Summer Law Apprenticeship, I am still amazed by the creativity and brilliance of the students. That being said, I think the biggest impact is upon the hearts of the volunteers. In the end, the students teach us the greatest lessons about virtue, life, and character. Midtown has a very special way of bringing the best out of students and volunteers alike.”

Michael Gray -
Director & Senior Counsel—Enterprise
Brand Risk, **Discover Financial Services**

A Summary of MEF Programs

Walgreens One-on-One Program (4th to 6th grade)

Exceptional individuals serve as volunteer tutors/mentors for students. In weekly sessions, they help students with homework, present them with positive role models, and develop in them the study habits associated with high achievers.

Midtown/Metro Achievement Program (7th & 8th grade)

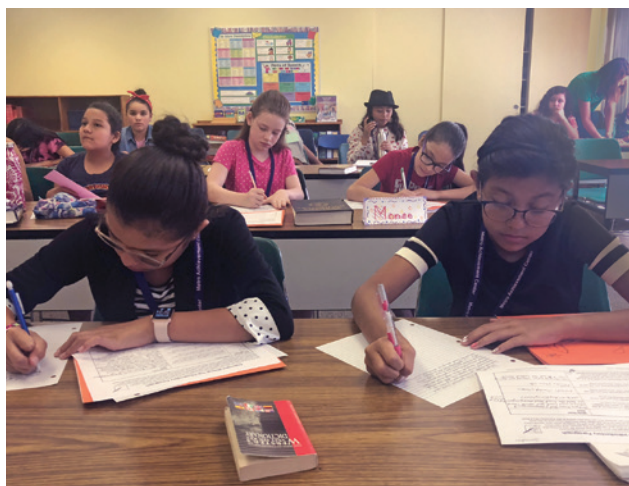
Math, science and English courses prepare students to enter college preparatory high schools and ultimately, college. Character development helps students begin to form a decision framework and vision for their future.

College Orientation Program (9th to 12th grade)

College, career and social readiness are emphasized in this program, which offers ACT prep, rigorous academics, enriching character classes, and help with college and scholarship applications. Students also engage in extracurricular offerings such as apprenticeships, community service projects and cultural and college field trips.

The Parenting Program

Seminars, support groups and individual counseling support parents in their important role as the primary educators of their own children.



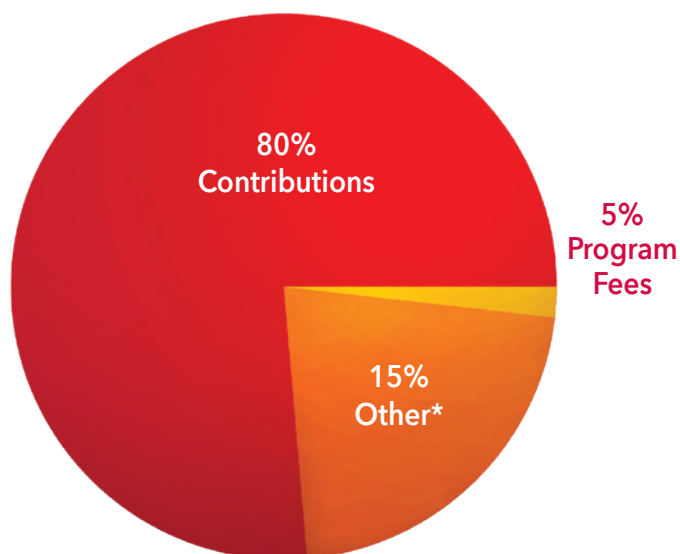
Financial Highlights for the Fiscal Year Ended May 31, 2018

Revenues: \$3,614,169
(unrestricted)

Expenses: \$3,607,180

- Percentage of funds expended on programs vs. administration and fund raising..... **71%**
- Program Volunteer Hours Expended..... **12,770**
- Estimated Value of Volunteer Hours..... **\$321,804**
- Volunteer-to-Staff Ratio..... **13:1**

Revenues



*Investments, rental and other

Copies of MEF's audited financial statements and Form 990 are available on request by calling Pam Williams at 312-738-8300, ext. 24.



2017-2018 Statistics

Midtown Educational Foundation

Full-time staff 8

Metro Achievement Center for girls

Founded 1985
 Director Erin Aldrich
 Location 310 S. Peoria Street, Chicago, IL 60607
 Telephone 312.226.4886

Metro Student Statistics

Students Served 501
 Hispanic 80%
 African-American 11%
 Full-time staff 9

Metro Volunteers 232

Midtown Center for boys

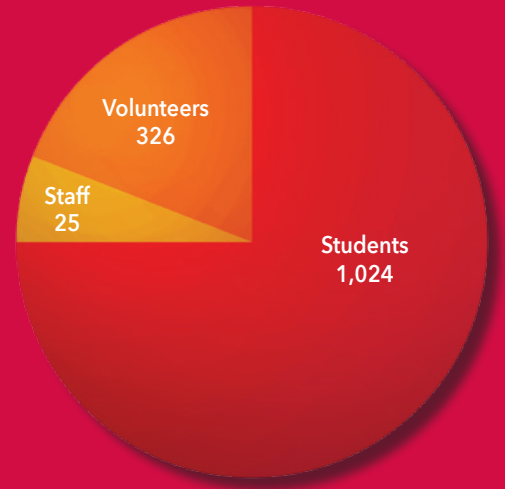
Founded 1965
 Director Peter Ladwein
 Location 1819 N. Wood Street, Chicago, IL 60622
 Telephone 773.292.2660

Midtown Student Statistics

Students Served 523
 Hispanic 83%
 African-American 8%
 Full-time staff 8

Midtown Volunteers 94

Staff to Volunteers to Students Summer 2017 through Spring 2018



Our Mission

Midtown Educational Foundation guides low-income urban youth in Chicago along pathways of success. Our proven enrichment programs embrace the dignity of the person by focusing on academic excellence, virtue development, individual attention, and parental engagement.

MEF programs are rooted in Catholic moral and social teaching and embrace students regardless of their religious, racial, ethnic, or familial status. MEF received its original inspiration from Opus Dei, an institution of the Catholic Church, and continues today its partnership with Opus Dei.

www.midtown-metro.org



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