



FAITH TO LEAD

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

From the President



CONTACT

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Phone: 215-724-6858 ext: 232

“From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required”

- Luke 12:48

Dear Cornerstone Families and Friends,

One word summarizes the content of this 2016 Annual Report – **Trust**. We do not take for granted the trust that is extended to us by Cornerstone’s parents, students, volunteers, board members, friends and donors. You entrust to our care and oversight your children, your time, your talents, your prayers and your financial resources. Your trust is what drives our mission to educate children in an environment that provides the highest standards for academic achievement and spiritual development. Please know we value and thank you for your trust.

In 2016 the lives and education of 240 children were entrusted to our care. The families of these children believe so strongly in the quality Christian education Cornerstone provides that in spite of financial challenges they paid over \$700,000 in tuition and fees. Added to this was the nearly \$2 million contributed by over 350 donors, including individuals, corporations, churches, and foundations; these were philanthropic gifts given with confidence to provide scholarships for our students to attend Cornerstone and resources for our educational program.

Scripture (Luke 12:48) tells us “From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required; and from the one to whom much has been entrusted, even more will be demanded.” Taking this mandate to heart we continued to improve and expand our services for children in 2016. The new **Learning Commons** was opened as a space for research, study, collaboration and innovation. A new academic assessment program **Measuring Academic Progress/MAP** was launched and is now providing valuable data for teachers to address students’ strengths and weaknesses. In order to support students with learning needs a **Student Support Team (SST)** was formed with psychoeducational professionals developing individual student Learning Plans. **Responsive Classroom** methods continued to be perfected by teachers and integrated into daily classroom practices. A new **Language Arts Curriculum** was introduced. **Technology Tools and Resources** were added and improvements were made to our **Computer Lab** as we strive to be a technologically driven school. Three dynamic **Summer Programs** served close to 200 children from the school and the community with **J-Rock** expanding its partnership with the Settlement Music School and the addition of a STEM program.

We rejoice in all that was accomplished in 2016, giving thanks to God for the families we served and for the many friends who generously supported our work. There is still much to be done to fulfill the vision we have for Cornerstone so we ask you to please keep the school in your prayers and continue to bless our students with your generous support.

Gratefully,

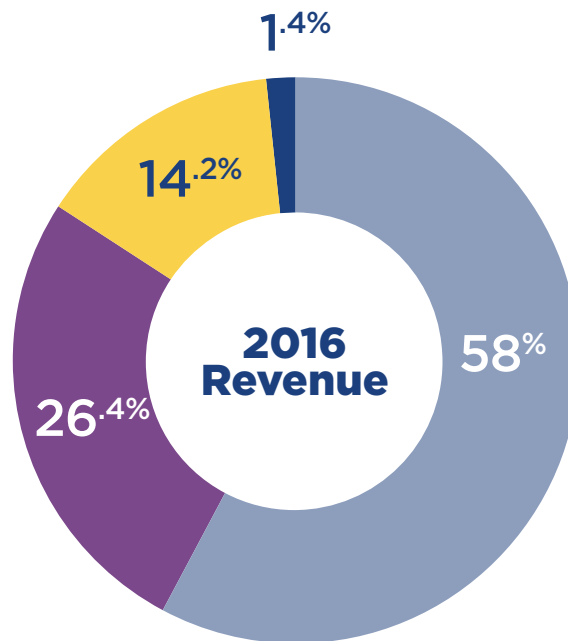
Dick Ollinger, President/CEO



Facts & Figures for 2016 Calendar Year

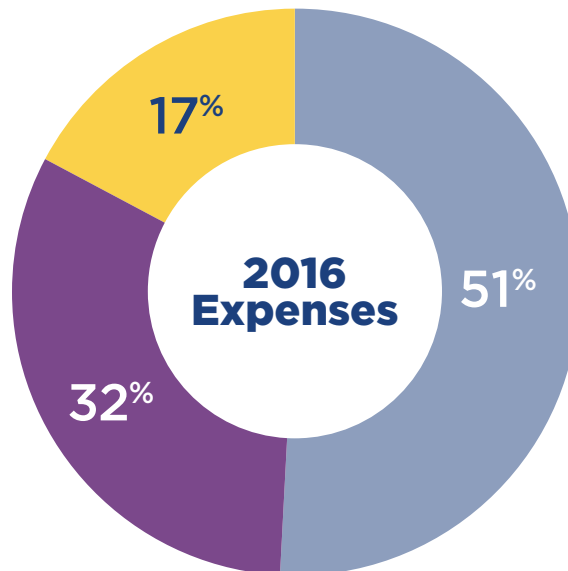
Revenue January 1 – December 31, 2016

Annual Fund Contributions	\$ 1,597,879
Tuition & Fees	\$ 728,320
Celebrate Hope Contributions	\$ 392,000
Other	\$ 38,156
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 2,756,355



Expenses January 1 – December 31, 2016

School Programs & Activities	\$ 1,310,963
Administration & Operations	\$ 825,345
Maintenance & Management	\$ 436,929
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 2,573,237



Baby Boomers: those born starting in mid-1946, are one of the largest segments of the U.S. population. For those who have Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs), they must begin taking their Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from their IRA by April 1st of the year after they turn 70 1/2. Because taking the RMD can move an individual into a higher tax bracket, one option is to rollover the RMD to a charitable organization such as Cornerstone. The process is a simple one your tax accountant or advisor can help you with, & the amount of the rollover will not appear as income or a deduction on your tax return. It is a simple, tax-free way to support Cornerstone students. **If you qualify, please contact Chris Petersen in the Development Office at (215) 724-6858 ext. 234 or by email at cpetersen@cornerstonephiladelphia.com.**

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 Christ Baptist Church
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 Harrisonburg Mennonite Church
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Cornerstone Reports

There's so much going on at Cornerstone Christian Academy. Here, in bite-size pieces, are some of the most exciting:

Maker Space

The Uncommon Individual Foundation—which is involved at Cornerstone with a variety of mentoring programs involving technology & life skills—has provided seed money for the new Richard E. Caruso STEAM Lab.

This new Lab will complement our current programming by providing a space for innovation, exploration & hands-on learning. Cornerstone's computer lab "The Tech World" currently provides students with technology skills training, while The Learning Commons is a place to put those skills in action with collaborative projects & research.

Available to students & faculty in the Caruso Lab will be iMac computers & two new 3D printers; a Lego wall to build mosaics, murals, landscapes, & any other vertical creations students can imagine; sewing machines for textile experimentation; robotics kits; craft supplies, & other non-manipulatives.

Instructors are also encouraged to experiment with fusing art projects with tech tools. This allows students to print & display their art, enhance & manipulate their pieces with the use of software programs, & ultimately create online galleries that will showcase their work.

The soft open of The Caruso STEAM Lab will be coming this spring, with the official Grand Opening scheduled for Fall 2017.

Build Your Bright Future

In partnership with Susquehanna University, Cornerstone hosted an interactive college information day on Saturday, March 4th for 20 former & current Cornerstone students & their parents. Admission & financial aid personnel as well as students from Susquehanna University discussed the value of a college education, portraying an accurate college experience, debunking common myths, & emphasizing the learning environment & opportunities for students. The day was mixed with entertaining information about college admission processes & group-building activities led by Adventure Network of Philadelphia. Over the years Cornerstone & Susquehanna have built a close relationship, sharing in programming & volunteer service opportunities with students from both schools.

Join us on May 25th from 9:00-10:00 a.m. for our monthly CCA101 that will feature current Susquehanna University student and Cornerstone Class of 2012 graduate Mikayla Hill.

RISE UP!

Rise Up! 28 Day Challenge Recap for 2016

This academic year's Annual Fund Drive, Rise Up! succeeded in raising nearly \$250,000 in support for student scholarships & academic programs.

Each year Cornerstone's generous donors contribute to the school's academic programs, scholarship needs, & facilities upkeep & improvements. For the 2016-17 year, the goal for outside contributions is \$1,460,000.

- *Rise Up!* generated over 15% of that goal during the month of December.
- One quarter of all donors were first time donors.
- Financial support received helped the artist-in-residence program, emerging technology programs and scholarship needs.
- Support received will help move the school closer to the overall fundraising goal for the year that ends on June 30th.



Student-Written Article



Port Chicago 50 Book Reports by Cianni Pratt and Nia Armstrong 7th Grade Students

Last week we started reading a book called *Port Chicago 50*. This book is about the struggle black men went through to gain the right to fight for the United States. We read about how unfairly black men were treated during this time even though they worked for the Navy.

Joe Small was the main character in the book. He had something about him that most men didn't - he was a leader. So whenever the other men had a problem, they went to him. When Joe would speak up for himself or his peers, he was told that they were not being treated differently and he should not complain.

My uncle served in the army and it would make him proud to know that we are reading this in school.

In Mr. C's class we are reading *Port Chicago 50*. This book is about a United States Navy base called Port Chicago, set during World War II.

At Port Chicago, African American sailors would load bombs to be used in the war. They were treated unfairly, and made to feel like criminals. This made me sad, but I also learned that I should not take my rights for granted. People like the men in this book did a lot so that I could have rights as an American, including an education.

How to Support Cornerstone in this coming year

Direct Gifts

Tax deductible gifts of cash, by written or electronic check, or by credit card. Send checks by mail to:

CCA
PO Box 5520
Philadelphia, PA 19143

Contribute online:
CornerstonePhiladelphia.com

Securities

Publically traded stock, mutual funds, EFT: Deduction received on gift; capital gains passed on to Cornerstone.

Planned Gifts

Bequests, charitable gift annuities, cash & other planned gifts can be made to **Cornerstone's Endowment Fund**.

United Way

Employee pledges can be made through two United Way agencies:

- **United Way of Southeastern PA, Donor Choice Agency #9616**
(donations designated for CCA's Extended Care Programs)
- **United Way of Tri-State Donor Choice Agency #0265566**

Match

Ask if your employer has a matching gifts program.

Cornerstone Kids Challenge:

What native Philadelphian was the 1st African-American woman to be admitted to the Pennsylvania bar, & the 1st African-American woman in the United States to earn a Ph.D. in Economics (University of Pennsylvania)?

Answer: Sadie Tanner Mossell Alexander



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Our Mission

The mission of Cornerstone Christian Academy is to educate children, including those from at-risk neighborhoods, in an environment that provides the highest standards for academic achievement and spiritual development.

Our Vision

It is our vision to be a model urban Christian school where students are grounded in faith, shaped with Christ-like character, & equipped with knowledge & skills to excel in high school, college, & throughout life.

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