



Annual Report 2016



Developing leaders by making long-term investments in children from at-risk communities.

Nurture the Child
Strengthen the Family
Rebuild the Community

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Dear Team,

“And your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundation of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to dwell in.” Isaiah 58:12

That is the verse that God gave to me when we started Youth Life Foundation of Richmond 15 years ago. When I envisioned Learning Centers throughout the city of Richmond, I knew the idea was God’s because my small detail-oriented mind could not even comprehend the magnitude of this calling. God has been faithful to YLFR as we have spread throughout the Northside these past fifteen years. I have gotten married; had three children; and, as the last one entered full-time school this fall, I knew that expansion beyond the Northside was on the horizon.

In December of 2015, a University of Richmond sophomore, Jane, asked to meet with me to see if YLFR might ever consider expanding to the Southside of Richmond and specifically to a Spanish-speaking community around Greene Elementary School. At the time we were still reeling from starting both LC Remix, our middle and high school program, and our Northminster Learning Center, so I put it in the back of my brain to be thought of when I had more time.

Fast forward less than one year to a meeting with my church pastors who wanted to have a Learning Center location in their building that is south of the river. One of the pastors had participated in a soccer program reaching Spanish-speaking students at Greene ES and asked if we would consider starting with that school? Two pushes towards Greene ES made me curious so I began researching what this area of the Southside had in terms of resources and what their needs looked like.

Through this process we have discovered a first grade teacher at Greene who went to

school with our board treasurer, an assistant principal who is very excited to work with us to help his students, two current Delmont mentors who also worked or mentored at Greene, several area churches who want to come alongside and help our efforts by prayer and other resources, and a host of Spanish-speaking people excited and willing to volunteer.

We have many other resources in place: grant money to buy transportation for this new site, the space for the Learning Center in Redemption Hill Church, a current teacher who is willing and excited to start the new center, a foundation who will pay for our salaries, and furniture and other resources that are starting to come to the space.

We have seen the need--an under-resourced school asking for help, no after-school programs for the K-2 students we want to start serving, and parents who want a good education for their children but who may not speak English very well or even be literate in Spanish.

Please be praying for this new adventure: for the first 14 students who will be selected this summer, for the new culture that we will be entering into, for the other grants to come in to help us furnish and start this new center, and for trust to be established in this new community.

Thank you for all the ways you have come alongside YLFR through your time and generosity in giving. We have been able to reach around 80 students in the Northside this year along with their families, and we can consider expanding thanks, in large part, to your faithfulness!

Heather Goodlett
Founder and Executive Director
Youth Life Foundation of Richmond



+ Student Spotlight: Amia

Level-headed. Consistent. Reliable. Amia Setzer is not the first student you would notice in a crowd, but her thorough excellence over time stands out and makes her difficult to miss. She does not command attention or set the tone of group dynamics, but with steadiness completes every assigned activity, and with integrity does what is right regardless of whether adult eyes are watching.

Amia first started with Youth Life in 2011 as a first grader at the Highland Park Learning Center. Now in 6th grade, she attends Franklin Military Academy and participates in LC Remix. She has weathered the sometimes-turbulent transition from elementary school to middle school with her characteristic readiness for whatever comes. She keeps her cool when others grow frustrated, seeks instructions when needed instead of waiting passively for help, and attentively absorbs teaching during Bible time.

Amia has an amazing ability to not only fill her current role as a middle school student well, but also keep an eye out for those behind her and for what might lie ahead. Every day, she hugs Ms. Erin, one of her elementary school teachers, on her way into the Remix program. On Wednesdays, Remix's Service Day, Amia has eagerly mentored a second grade student at the Highland Park/Northminster site. She is also in the process of applying for Youth Life's Leader In Training position at an elementary Learning Center over the summer. Looking ahead, ever since seeing the movie *Hidden Figures* on one of Youth Life's Fun Nights, she has talked about wanting to work for NASA. When students were joking on the bus one day about building a robot that could drive the bus, Amia cheerfully responded, "Just give me about ten years!"

Thank you for your leadership by example, Amia. We can't wait to see what you will build, whether a Learning Center Robot or a stronger community along the way!



“Honestly, I don’t know where I would be without the Learning Center, because I’ve been able to do a bunch of things I wouldn’t be doing otherwise. It’s a learning opportunity. I’ve gotten the chance to become a mentor, and being on the other side, teaching other kids as you were taught when you were younger, that’s a cool experience.” -Michael, LC Remix High School student



LC Remix: Leading through Service

YLFR has been blessed with students who have a heart to serve for God’s glory. Over the past year the high school students have volunteered to help the elderly, churches, other organizations, and close friends. It has been a joy to watch the young men and women of LC Remix give their time and effort to serve the community. They have taken the initiative to shovel snow, weed gardens, and clean out garages for neighbors. On more than one occasion the students sacrificed their Friday nights to faithfully serve at concessions stands in the VCU Siegel Center during basketball games to help raise funds for a local church. And these acts of service were all in addition to consistent weekly volunteering at Hope Thrift and RUMI (Richmond Urban Ministry Institute). The hours the high school students have spent serving others is exemplary. Service days have been highly encouraged by the high school teacher but never mandatory, yet the students still come out and serve. When it comes to servant leadership, these students thrive!

Special Event: Darrell Green Celebrity Golf Tournament

The Darrell Green Celebrity Golf Classic which benefits YLFR was on Monday, June 13th. Once again we opened the event the evening before at the gorgeous Resident’s Club at Hallsley. As one of our top sponsors, Hallsley provided a beautiful venue to host our celebrities and sponsors for a delicious spread put out by **Brickhouse Diner**. For the third year in a row we had to utilize both Brandermill and Birkdale Golf Courses and we could not be more thankful for owner Mike Hatch and his staff for helping us to raise as much money as possible. **We had 52 teams, 208 golfers, and over 50 celebrities. At last count it looks like we raised almost \$50,000 for YLFR.**

A special thank you to our wonderful \$10,000 presenting sponsors: George Mason Mortgage and Hallsley East West Communities. At the dinner after golf on Monday George Mason Mortgage not only led the way for our live auction but also promised an additional \$5,000 in sponsorship money for the event! I was in tears as a member of Hallsley matched that \$5,000 amount. We also want to thank our two Executive Sponsors: Creative Color and RJ Smith and four Corporate Sponsors: Family Practice Associates of Chesterfield, Tower 3, Dominion, and The Lewis Group BB&T Scott & Stringfellow! Finally, a special thank you to our golf chairs, Joe Dunn and Daniel Johnson and volunteer coordinator, Tim Parent who made the event a success and excellent from start to finish!



2016 Numbers

Student Participation:

- 52 elementary
- 27 middle & high

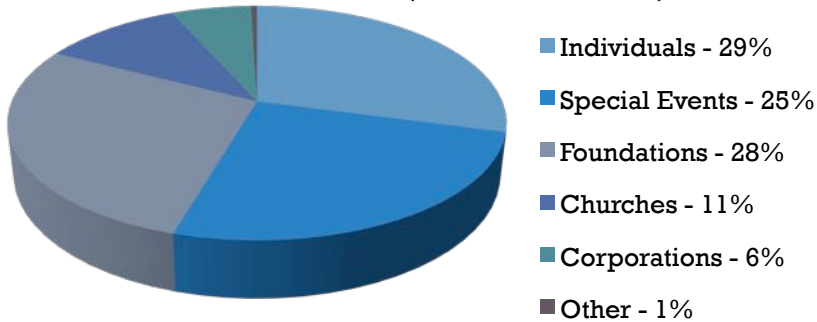
Volunteer Participation:

- 11 interns
- 186 mentors

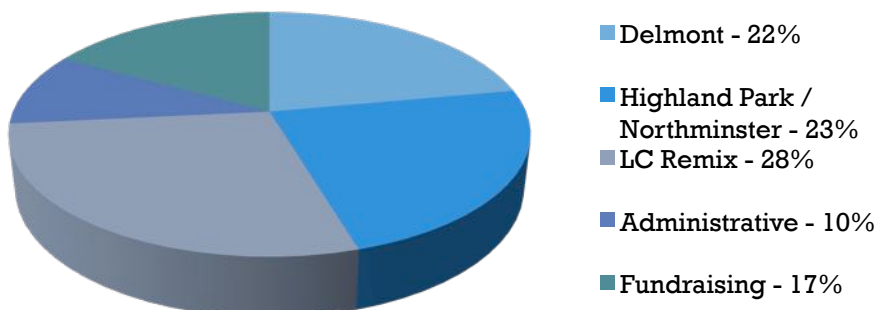
Ongoing Financial Partners:

- 81 individuals
- 10 churches

2016 Income (Unaudited)



2016 Expenses (Unaudited)



“I have learned how to focus on just being there for my mentee, and being a constant in her life. I can’t change everything for her, but I can help her by showing up with a smile every week.”
-YLFR Mentor

Mentor Spotlight:



+

Miss
Cassie



Cassie Gilboy, a rising junior at University of Richmond, has been a mentor at the Delmont Learning Center for the past two years. She has poured countless hours each semester into mentoring Oh'Deja, a sweet and spunky first grader. Cassie's presence lights up a room and brings smiles to everyone around her. She is a wonderful example of someone that exudes Christ's love, joy, kindness, and selfless nature. It has been amazing to watch how Cassie's time volunteering at Youth Life has further developed her passion for children and changed her direction in life.

Cassie started mentoring her freshman year of college after a recruiting event at University of Richmond. She knew she had a passion for kids and a love for serving others so she signed up. She describes that moment as a "Jesus moment" since she didn't have much of an idea of what to expect. She started volunteering, fell in love with the kids, and has returned every semester since. Cassie not only acts as a Youth Life mentor, but also holds the position of President of the Youth Life Mentor Organization at University of Richmond. She has worked hard this year to recruit numerous committed and caring mentors at Youth Life.

This past fall, after a year of mentoring, Cassie sent an email sharing a decision she made as a

result of her time at Youth Life. When she began college, Cassie was set on becoming a doctor, but mentoring made her realize that she no longer wanted to do that. With a newly discovered passion for education along with the desire to fight for equality in education, Cassie was excited to announce her plans to become a teacher. We are so excited for her and know she will make an excellent teacher!

It has been a joy to watch Cassie and Oh'Deja grow closer the past two years. Cassie's favorite memory is when she took Oh'Deja and her sister to Chick-fil-a, then celebrated a mini-Christmas with their whole family. Cassie recalls there being so much joy and love that night. Oh'Deja's twin sister, O'Miya, exclaimed, "This was the best day of my life!" Cassie said it was the best day of her life as well and an evening she would never forget.

Cassie goes above and beyond in serving and will be joining us this summer as a full-time intern. She cares so well for each student she comes in contact with, but also does an amazing job of encouraging the staff. Whether it's sending an email, writing a card, or speaking face-to-face, Cassie has a way of brightening your day. Cassie has added life, love, and joy to the Youth Life program since her first day of mentoring and we are so blessed to have her.



“Youth Life has done a wonderful job with my son as far as attitude and learning. He has become more well behaved and responsible.”

-YLFR Parent

Community Partners 2016

- AmazonSmile
- Art for the Journey
- Atlee Church
- Barnabas Center
- Bates Orthodontics
- Bon Secours Nutrition Outreach
- Bryan Innovation Lab
- Camp Hope
- Central Virginia Realty
- CharacterWorks
- Children’s Museum of Richmond
- Christmas with the Redskins
- Darrell Green Youth Life Foundation
- Deb Zickafoose
- Destiny City Fellowship Church
- East End Pregnancy Center
- Embrace Richmond
- Feedmore
- George Mason Mortgage
- Henrico County Police Department
- Home Builders Association of Richmond
- Hope Thrift
- Kroger
- Landmark Property Services
- Legal Aid Justice Center/Youth for Rise
- LeGault Homes
- Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens
- Mechanicsville Christian Center
- Mitchell Wiggins & Company
- Northside Church of Richmond
- Northside Outreach Center
- Perkinson Homes
- Pop, Hop and Rock
- Pulmonary Associates of Richmond
- Pump It Up, Hanover
- Redemption Hill Church
- Richmond Justice Initiative – The Prevention Project
- Richmond Kickers
- Richmond Urban Ministry Institute
- Rolando Lamb, A-Game Elite
- Shalom Baptist
- Shalom Farms
- SB2Dub Citikidz Camp
- Soul Ice
- Spirit of God Ministries International
- Stop Child Abuse Now (SCAN)
- Talon 540, Godwin High School
- Taylor Bates Photography
- The Dance Candle
- University of Richmond Bonner Center for Civic Engagement
- University of Richmond Japanese Drum Group
- University of Richmond Kappa Alpha Theta
- University of Richmond Kappa Kappa Gamma
- University of Richmond Men’s Basketball Team
- University of Richmond Rotoract Club
- University of Richmond Women’s Basketball Team
- University of Richmond Women’s Swim Team
- University of Richmond Youth Life Mentor Organization
- Veritas School
- Virginia Commonwealth University Richmond Teacher Residency
- West End Assembly of God
- Young Life/Real Talk



Community Partner Spotlight: West End Assembly of God



The members of West End Assembly of God (or WEAG), have been ministering to the students of Youth Life for over eight years through various activities. Every single month, 25 WEAG volunteers come out to our elementary locations for a Fun Night with the students.

Lisa Eggert, the Kids Pastor, describes the joys of Fun Night. “Our favorite part is seeing the same kids, week after week. We love getting to know them, and we love that they get to know us and count on us to show up each month. We especially love dinner time together; it gives us a chance to just hang out with the kids and hear about their day...and who doesn’t love pizza?!”



Fun Night is not the only way WEAG has been partnering with Youth Life. Throughout the year, they allow several of our students to attend summer camp, graciously host a summer VBS for our elementary kids, invite the Learning Centers to attend their fall festival, and many of their members give to Faith Promise Giving which helps support Youth Life financially.



As a church, WEAG places a major emphasis on community outreach. Lisa says,

“We always want to be available and willing to be a part of our community. We believe it is what Jesus asks of us, and when we obey Him in this way, it changes our hearts and lives. When we are able to engage with our community, we can’t help but to see things differently and gain a new perspective - and that will always change you.”



Thank you to the WEAG team for loving these kids!



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 Jason & Katie Williams
 Francis & Adrian Woods*
 Everett & Kirby Worthington
 John & Ruth Worthington
 Eric & Katrina Young*
 Ruth Zins

Churches

*Gives monthly or quarterly

Celebration Church
 City Church of Richmond*
 Clover Hill Assembly of God*
 Fairfield Presbyterian Church
 Grace Community Presbyterian*
 Harvest Renewal Church*
 Hill City Church
 Hope Church*
 Mechanicsville Christian Center*
 Mt. Zion Baptist Church
 Northside Church of Richmond*
 Oreland Evangelical Presbyterian*
 Redemption Hill Church*

Third Church
 West End Assembly of God*

Foundations & Corporations

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 AmazonSmile
 America's Charities
 Bank of America
 Bates Orthodontics
 Benevity Community Impact Fund
 Bon Secours Health Systems
 The Clark Family
 Dominion Foundation
 Emily S. & Coleman A. Hunter Charitable Trust
 First Eagle Investment Management
 G.F.H. Insurance Agency
 GlaxoSmithKline Foundation
 Goldman, Sachs & Company Matching Gift Program
 JMH, LLC
 JustGive
 Kroger
 Meg & Bennett Goodman Family Foundation
 Merck Partnership for Giving
 The Mill on MacArthur
 Mitchell Wiggins & Company
 Motorsports Charities
 Network for Good
 Northside Grill
 Property Investment Advisors
 RECO Foundation
 Schwab Charitable Fund – Richard & Susan Randolph
 The Community Foundation, Wheelless Family Foundation
 Tower 3
 Truist
 United Way Combined Federal Campaign
 William H., John G., & Emma Scott Foundation
 YourCause, LLC – Sarah Crawford

Golf Tournament

Sponsors

George Mason Mortgage with Bill Landon, Monty Nelson, & Joe Dunn (\$10,000)
 Hallsley East West Communities (\$10,000)
 Fred D. Thompson with Creative Color (\$5,000)
 R.J. Smith Concrete, Inc. (\$5,000)
 Robert Brower (\$5,000)
 Pearson Family Foundation (\$5,000)
 Family Practice Associates (\$2,500)
 Tower 3 (\$2,500)
 Dominion (\$2,500)
 The Lewis Group, BB&T, Scott & Stringfellow – Joseph Bartholomew (\$2,500)
 84 Lumber (\$2,000)
 Biringer Builders (\$2,000)
 Ray A. Williams Construction (\$2,000)
 Perkinson Homes (\$2,000)
 W.V. McClure, Inc. T/A Main St. Homes (\$2,000)
 Homesmith Construction (\$2,000)
 Better Homes & Gardens Real Estate Base Camp, John O'Reilly (\$2,000)
 Alcova Mortgage (\$2,000)
 AnneMarie Hensley ADH LLC (\$2,000)
 Lee & Lee Bail Bonding (\$2,000)

James River Exteriors (\$2,000)
 South River Custom Homes (\$2,000)
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 Lloyd M. Poe Interests, Inc.
 Tad Berman
 Al Coleman
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 Joshua Martin

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 Belfor USA Group, Inc.
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 Home Builders Association of Richmond
 Rick Schofield
 A.M. Financial – Matthew McKenna
 George Wigginton
 G.F.H. Insurance Agency
 Les Brown (2 teams)
 Joshua Williams
 Stefani
 River City Custom Homes (\$750)

Beverage Cart Sponsors (\$500)

84 Lumber
 Loveland Distributing
 Shamin Hotels

Hole Sponsors (\$250)

Valcourt Building Services
 LifeStyle Home Builders
 Frontline Exhibits
 Bates Orthodontics (2)
 Bio-Cat
 Pamela Diemer – Long & Foster
 Cowan Gates
 A.M. Financial – Matthew McKenna
 Mitchell Wiggins & Company
 LeGault Homes/Central Virginia Realty

In-Kind Giving

Billy Gray (trophies)
 Brickhouse Diner (lunch)
 Pepsi (beverages)
 Pearson (insurance & cars)
 Panera Bread (breakfast)
 Uptown Alley (food)





Get Involved!

Volunteer: Give two hours a week to mentor one of our students.

Intern: Spend seven weeks with us teaching this summer.

Serve: Join the board or a committee.

Donate: Become a monthly or yearly partner.

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