



# CHICAGO LIGHTS

A Community Outreach Organization  
at Fourth Presbyterian Church

Educational Engagement  
Economic Stability  
Healthy Living  
Community Building



# 2013

{ANNUAL REPORT}

# {OUR MISSION}

Chicago Lights provides hope and opportunity to our city's children, youth, and adults who face the challenges of poverty. Through supportive relationships and diverse programs, we empower people to thrive academically, secure economic stability, lead healthy lives, and build community.



“I choose to send my child to Summer Day to prevent summer learning loss. I like the concept of incorporating school work with summer play and trips. Great idea!”  
– Summer Day parent

# mission

# {FROM THE PRESIDENT }



Dear Friends,

Transformation. That is the word running through my mind as I write the President's Letter for this 2013 Annual Report. One at a time, each of Chicago Lights' six diverse programs transformed the 4,000 lives served, thereby providing the opportunity for each participant to claim a fuller life and brighter future.

- The Chicago Lights Tutoring and Mentoring program was more than improving grades. Coming up on its 50 year anniversary, over 400 youth were matched with a person who believes in and is committed to them, someone who encouraged them to stay in school through graduation, to excel and to pursue higher education. Youth placed in internships with local businesses learned real world workplace expectations.
- Chicago Lights Academic Success in Schools (CLASS) was more than dance. CLASS transformed lives through artistic expression, building self-esteem that will support healthy adult relationships.
- The Elam Davies Social Service Center (EDSSC) was more than a meal. EDSSC supported adults on their journey to greater stability and self-sufficiency, from homeless to housed, from unemployed to employed.
- The Urban Farm was more than growing produce, it was about economic opportunity. Youth received job training and learned the satisfaction of entrepreneurship. Children and adults in the community learned healthy eating--all in a safe and respected urban environment.
- The Free Write Jail Arts and Literacy program was more than filling time for incarcerated youth. It was about reducing recidivism through education and teaching self-expression as an alternative to violence.
- The Summer Day program was more than day care. Summer Day reduced summer learning loss while opening children to the possibility of a life greater than poverty.

Chicago Lights programming in 2013 was so much more for so many. Young doctors learned better patient skills by volunteering in the street outreach program. Chicago employers hired youth ready to work. Underperforming Chicago Public Schools received resources to help them reach their students in unique ways. Tutoring volunteers who return year after year told stories of college graduations and weddings attended.

Finally, my life was transformed and it was my privilege to witness the dedication of the staff and volunteers as they pursued the Chicago Lights vision. As an accountant I'm always focused on the numbers, costs per participant, and participants served, but my eyes were opened to the power and the possibility of the number one. A friend wrote this after a Chicago Lights event, "If as written in the Talmud, that 'to save one life is to save the world entire', can it be any less true that to change one life for the better is also to change the world?" Please join me in supporting Chicago Lights. Your life will be transformed.

Marilee Hopkins  
President, May 2013-May 2014

transformation

# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



**THE TUTORING PROGRAM** launched a new initiative, **Career Prep**, which expanded programming for 7th & 8th grade boys. Participants attended personal development workshops and field trips to expose them to career opportunities within the sports industry. Support from organizations like Athletico, Big Ten Network, and the Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation (CAASE) helped to make this program a success.



Fifty-five percent of **SUMMER DAY** students are also **Tutoring** students, ensuring that they are receiving year-round programming in academics, arts, and enrichment activities. All Summer Day academic classes were **aligned with the Common Core Standards** in 2013.



**FREE WRITE** students competed in Louder Than A Bomb, the world's largest youth poetry festival. The Free Write team won second place in one of their preliminary bouts. Whereas other high school teams have poets that are actually present to perform their poetry, the audience looks at an empty stage while listening to recorded Free Write student poems. The audience of 3,000 people generously applauded the recording.



Fourth Presbyterian member Kevin Reome and his charitable Newspro event raised funds for the 1st ever **CLASS Summer Dance Intensive**. Twenty five students studied ballet, modern, and jazz dance, while boosting technique, confidence, and self-esteem.



The **URBAN FARM** expanded its hours and growing season, allowing opportunity to provide services for over 950 participants, visitors, and volunteers. A new microenterprise — Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) salad share — was wildly popular, enabling the Farm to further extend its reach into the community by providing an additional avenue for people to secure fresh produce.



In partnership with Northwestern Feinberg School of Medicine, the **ELAM DAVIES SOCIAL SERVICE CENTER** created a street outreach team, **Good Neighbors**, that has provided weekly mobile outreach to individuals who are chronically homeless and on the streets. Fifteen hundred basic-need items were distributed, and 78 individuals were engaged.



**THE ASSOCIATES BOARD** with its 51 members, logged more than 1,500 hours of volunteer service with Chicago Lights and raised more than \$57,000!

# {DONOR FEATURES}



**Peter Shannon** was first drawn to Chicago Lights by the Tutoring program. “My mom was a teacher, and I think education is a great way to help people beat the challenges of poverty,” he explains. Three years later, Peter is not only still tutoring, he’s a founding member and current president of the Associates Board, which means he sits in on Chicago Lights Board meetings, and he’s working with co-chair Rick Sabol to plan the second-annual Spotlight event this fall. “My involvement has given me a chance to see all the other programs and understand the breadth Chicago Lights has, how many people they reach. It’s made me even more excited about what we’re doing.” And it’s also changed the way he sees the city around him and the way he spends his time. “I see everyone I meet as a potential supporter of Chicago Lights,” he says with a laugh. “It deepens relationships when you feel good about what you’re doing together. Everyone deserves a chance, and Chicago Lights puts a smile on the faces of volunteers, as well as those we serve.”



**Deborah Hall-Kayler and Allan Kayler** have long been supporters of various Fourth Church endeavors, including the Counseling Center and the Carnival gala, but in the summer of 2013, they connected with Chicago Lights in a whole new way. “We merged two companies and needed bright, dynamic, eager-to-work interns to assist with everything—creating order out of utter chaos,” Deborah explains. Chicago Lights Career Development program participant Tialena Walker was hired at Med Staff On-Call, LLC, the Kaylers’ new business (a staffing service for nurses and other medical professionals). “She was positive from the beginning,” says Deborah of Tia. “And she had a personal interest in learning.” Tia is now a part-time employee at Med Staff On-Call, and “she continues to add value to our organization.” The Kaylers will be hosting another Career Development intern this summer, providing invaluable hands-on experience and mentoring, and Deborah says the experience has shifted her perspective on today’s young people. “There is great hope in the youth of today,” she explains.

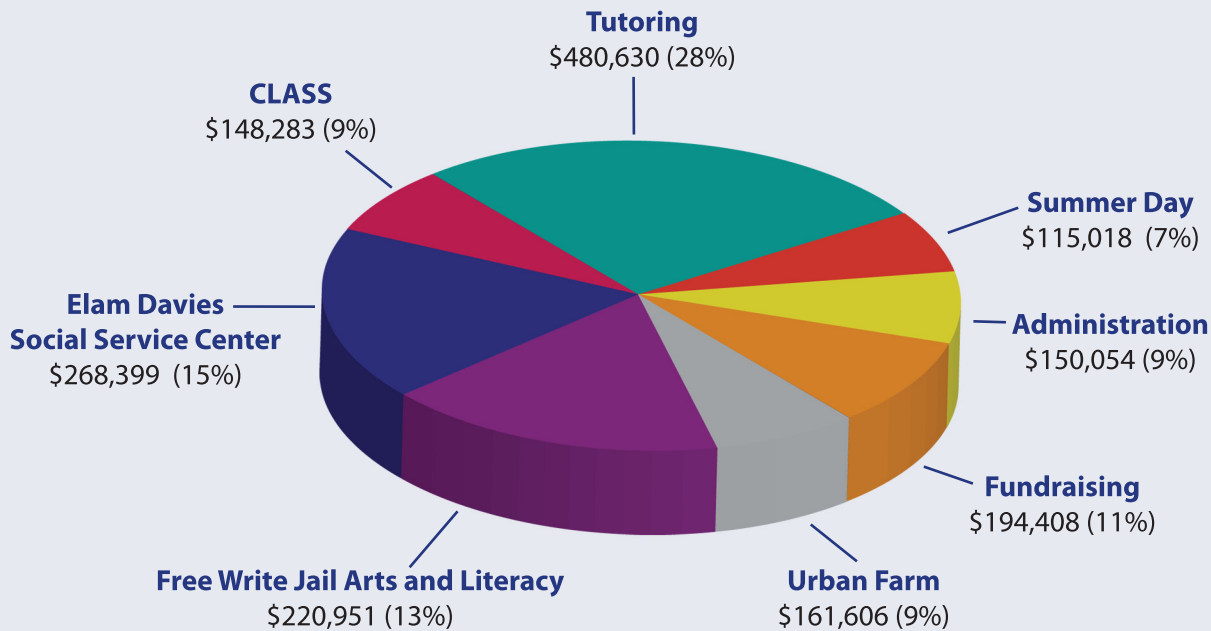
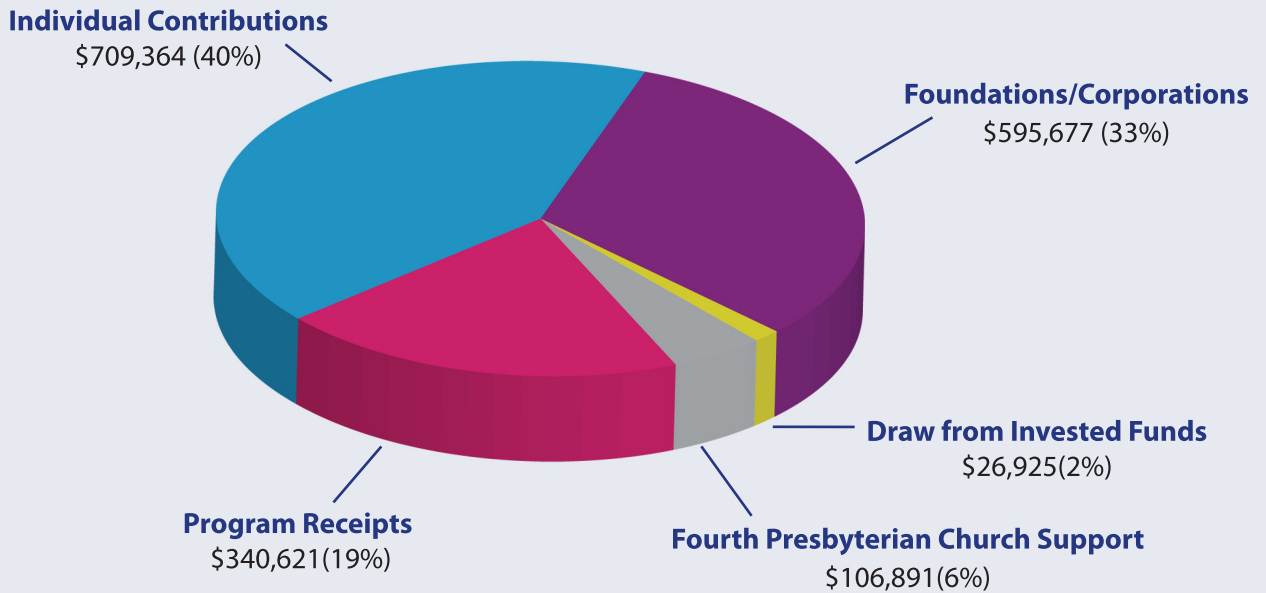


**Laurel Franczyk**, an account executive with the Delta Air Lines Global Sales Team, has been instrumental in connecting her co-workers with Chicago Lights through their Force for Global Good program. “Delta and its employees have always demonstrated a civic obligation to give back to the communities where we live and work,” she explains. Delta was not only extremely generous in donating travel for several of the packages auctioned at Carnival, but a group of their employees has also volunteered at the EDSSC. We’re so thankful for their support, but it’s all in a day’s work, Laurel says: “As a member of the Delta Air Lines family, I support the Five Core Pillars to Delta’s Force for Global Good.” These include expanding global health and wellness, promoting arts and culture, advancing education, and improving the environment.

changing lives

# {2013 FINANCIAL SUMMARY}

**CONTRIBUTIONS**  
**\$1,779,478**



**DISTRIBUTIONS**  
**\$1,739,349**  
Net Surplus / (Deficit) \$40,129

Source: the Chicago Lights 2013 unaudited financial statement.  
An audited statement is available after June 30, 2014.

# {GIVING OPPORTUNITIES}



- Give to the Chicago Lights Annual Fund
- Designate Chicago Lights for a corporate matching gift
- Honor someone special through a tribute or memorial gift
- Donate to a specific Chicago Lights program
- Secure a sponsorship or in-kind gift from your company
- Designate Chicago Lights through your workplace giving campaign
- Party with a purpose at Carnaval, our annual gala
- Support our Associates Board's gala, GLOW
- Plan a gift for the future

*For more information about giving to fund Chicago Lights' life-changing outreach, please contact Katy Frey Bever at 312.981.3380 ([kbever@chicagolights.org](mailto:kbever@chicagolights.org)).*

““ The Chicago Lights Associates Board gives you the ability to move beyond being a “participant” in a great cause, and allows you to help drive the success of an organization that has such a profound impact on the community. There is such a wealth of resources in the young professional volunteer community, and the Chicago Lights Associates Board is the perfect opportunity to put these resources to work!”

*–Matt Pruitt*

# {PARTNERS}

Accenture (Chicago Eco Team)  
Alderman Walter Burnett, Jr.  
American Academy of Implant Dentistry  
American Patriot Realty  
Belmont-Cragin Elementary School  
Benevolent  
Big Ten Network  
Blue Plate Catering  
Bostrom Consulting  
Boys Hope Girls Hope  
Breaking Bread, a Ministry of LaSalle Street Church  
Breakthrough Urban Ministries  
Brown Elementary School of Technology  
Building Owners and Managers Association of Chicago (BOMA/Chicago)  
Cabrini Connections  
Capitol One 360  
Caregiverlist, Inc.  
Catholic Charities  
Catholic Theological Union  
Center for Conflict Resolution  
Central City Housing Ventures  
Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation  
Chicago Athletic Clubs  
Chicago Cares  
Chicago Coalition for the Homeless  
Chicago Help Initiative  
Chicago Hope Academy  
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning  
Chicago Police Department (18th District)  
Chicago Public Schools  
Chicago Public Schools – Brentano Math and Science Academy  
Chicago Semester  
Chicago Sinai Congregation  
Chicago Waldorf School  
Chicago Youth Centers  
ChicagoQuest Academy  
Christ Presbyterian Church (College Ministry)  
CJK Foods  
Cook County Juvenile Detention Center  
Cross Walk  
CW Arts Consulting Inc.  
DeLaSalle Institute  
DePaul Family and Community Health Center  
DePaul Steans Center  
DePaul University MSW Program  
Destination Chicago (Feinberg School of Medicine)  
Ditka's Restaurant  
Dress for Success  
Educational Endeavors  
Equinox Fitness Club  
Erie Neighborhood House  
ETA Theatre  
Farmhouse Chicago  
Feeding America  
Francis W. Parker School  
Francis Xavier Warde School  
Franciscan Outreach Association  
Franczek Radelet  
Generation We  
Girl Scouts of Greater Chicago and Northwest Indiana  
Global Kids, Inc.  
Gordon Tech High School  
Greater Chicago Food Depository  
Greenheart  
Groupon  
Growing Power  
Holy Trinity High School  
IBM (Chicago Community Service Committee)  
Illinois Eye Institute/Vision of Hope  
Illinois Mentoring Partnership  
Impact 100  
Inspiration Corporation/ The Employment Project  
Irwin W. Steans Center at DePaul University  
Jesse Brown VA Medical Center  
Jesuit Volunteer Corps Midwest  
Joffrey Ballet  
John Marshall Law School  
Josephinum Academy  
Kendall College  
Kennedy Heights Presbyterian Church Youth Group  
Kentucky Master Gardeners  
Lake Forest College  
Lakeview Pantry  
Law Offices of Elina Golod & Associates, Ltd.  
Lawson House YMCA  
Learn Romano Charter School  
Levy Restaurants  
Lincoln Park Community Shelter  
Lookingglass Theatre  
Loras College  
Loyola Academy  
Loyola University  
Loyola University - School Psychology Program  
Loyola University School of Social Work  
Lululemon  
Manierre School  
Marcel Media  
Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities  
Med Staff On-Call  
Mount Carmel High School  
MYNA (Muslim Youth of North America)  
Nancy B. Jefferson Alternative School  
NBC Chicago  
Net Impact Chicago  
North Shore Congregation Israel  
Northeastern Illinois University School of Social Work

“Going to Free Write was valuable to me because it took my mind off everything that I go through on a day-to-day basis. It helped me become more conscious of what is really going on in society with the media and the music we hear all the time. I hope to continue with the experience.”

–I., *Free Write student*



# {PARTNERS}

Northside Anti-Hunger Network  
Northwestern Law - Student Effort to Rejuvenate  
Volunteerism (SERV)  
Northwestern Memorial Hospital  
Northwestern University  
Northwestern University (NU Gives Back)  
Northwestern University Civic Education Project  
Northwestern University Feinberg School of  
Medicine  
Northwestern University School of Law  
Notre Dame High School for Girls  
Oak Park River Forest High School  
O'Hare Rotary Club  
Princeton University Law Alumni  
Project Nia  
Project Syncere  
Providence St. Mel  
Ravinia Festival  
Regina Dominican  
Response

River North Dance Company  
Rock for Kids  
Rock Prairie Presbyterian Church  
Roosevelt University  
Roosevelt University - Educational Talent Search  
Safelink Wireless  
Salazar Bilingual Academy  
Salvation Army  
Sarah's Circle  
School of Social Service Administration at the  
University of Chicago  
School of the Art Institute  
Sertoma Centre, Inc.  
SGA  
Skillsoft Corp  
Sprouts Academy  
St. Malachy  
St. Matthew United Methodist Church  
St. Patrick High School  
Stardreamers, The Land of Yes You Can

Swish Dreams Sports & Educational Foundation  
Taproot  
Target  
The Chicago School of Professional Psychology  
The Women's Treatment Center  
Thoughtworks  
Trinity High School  
Tutoring Chicago  
U.S. Bank  
Urban CPE Consortium, Inc.  
Van Cleef Hair Studio  
Vaughn Occupational High School  
VietNow  
Walgreens  
West Virginia University: Landscape Architecture  
Westminster Canterbury Fellowship  
World Chicago  
Yale Club of Chicago  
Yogaview  
Young Chicago Authors

“When I needed extra support, my tutor helped me with homework when I didn't understand it. She would also help me with my emotional or relationship issues to keep me sane and focused. She can really understand and listen to me in my worst of times. It's a reason for me to come to Tutoring, to see tutors smile.”

—Alexandra, 11th grade

# {SUPPORTERS}

Anonymous (2)  
David Abel  
Margaret & Daniel Abramson  
Nancy Abshire  
Bill & Liz Adams, IV  
Chris & Lauren Adams  
Joseph Aguanno  
Jim & Geri Ahlberg  
Elisabeth Alber  
Devon Albert  
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Reta Brown  
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Darein Burton  
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Linda Bynoe  
Hannah Cady  
Phil & Jill Calian  
Christopher Callahan  
Jonathan & Jennifer Campbell  
Shegan Campbell & Celeste Thomas  
Tatiana Canaval  
Dennis & Anne Marie Canfield

“Thank you for giving me an opportunity to practice cooking for my future and art for a hobby. Thank you for teaching me many things. Thank you for helping me through hard times. Thank you for taking me places I thought I'd never get the chance to see. But most of all thank you for helping me find my dream, which is to be a great chef.”

–CHAMP Participant

# {SUPPORTERS}

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Thomas & Wendy Cutka  
Mary Cutter  
Fernie Dabkey  
Alyn & Lisa Dagher  
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Carroll Damron & Frieda Ireland  
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Lynn Davis  
Noel Davis  
Stephanie Davis  
Ted & Cathy Davis  
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Richard Dees & Nora Flint  
Lynn DeJong  
Xiaomeng Delderfield  
Roger Delhaye  
Gail DeMay  
Niren Desai  
Hans Detlefsen & Emily Bradley  
Jer & Wona Deverman  
John Deverman & Vicky Martinez  
Michael & Louella DeVries  
Edward & Grace DeYoung  
Asela Diaz  
Debora Dickinson  
Lee Dickson  
Linda DiDonato  
Elizabeth Diebolt  
Nancy Diehl  
Larry & Petra Dietz  
Barbara Dillard  
Justin Director  
Rebecca Dixon  
Bob Doak  
Jeff Doane & Gretchen VanNatta  
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Joseph Donegan  
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Amanda Donnelly  
Dave & Katy Donovan

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James & Mary Durham  
Patty Duthler  
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Scot & Kathryn Easterday  
Nyambi & Marie Ebie  
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Megan Eddy  
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Jill Erny  
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Harley Esposito  
Dave & Joan Etringer  
Bill & Dixie Evans  
Sam & Terry Evans  
Glenn & Laurie Ezell  
Marilyn Ezri  
John Fagiolo & Catherine Ramsden

“This organization is helping me to rebuild my life and regain important focus in housing, jobs, and building new friendships.”

# {SUPPORTERS}

Jonathan & Laura Fairman  
John Farda  
Ashkon Farmand  
Jack & Abbee Fassnacht  
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Todd & Sonja Faulkner  
Jared Feehan  
Jay Fehnel  
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Julie Grimm  
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Michel & Jane Guth  
John Guzior & Pam Trilla Guzior  
Armon Haagen &  
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John & Caryn Hank  
Eileen Harakal  
Thomas & Sandy Hardesty  
Cynthia Hardie  
Marianne Harkness  
Marsha Harman  
Elizabeth Harper  
Allison Harriman  
Diana Harris  
Shani Harrold  
David Hart  
Maryanne Hauser  
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Marc Hayford & Tami Forsline  
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Cora Hays-Magan  
Pee Wee & Gail Head, Jr.  
Jon Head  
Catherine Hegarty  
Paul & Willa Hekman  
Gillian Heller & Eric Deinoff  
Matthew & Alison Helms  
Mary Henning  
Fred & Val Henry  
Emily Hereford  
Liz Patterson & Michael Hermsen  
Mitch & Trish Hershberger  
Patrice Heuer  
Carlton Higbie  
John Higbie  
Gretchen Hill  
John Himmel

“My experience in Free Write has been great. I learned how to concentrate and write to the beat of my consciousness.”  
—S. Free Write student

# {SUPPORTERS}

Kay Hinn  
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“My tutor gives me both academic and emotional support in school and outside of school.”  
—Tietl, 11th grade

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“The Career Development program inspired me to figure out which professional path was best for me. It also inspired me to put my all in what I do, so good things can happen in the future.”  
—Shanita, alumna

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“Summer Day encourages positive socializing and prepares the kids for the next year.”  
—Summer Day parent

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“ I am most thankful that I met people who were willing to sit and talk with me on a serious basis. When I came over to the EDSSC they took the proper time to talk to me, to ask questions, to show me they would put some effort into helping me. I got “full” help when coming to the EDSSC. ”



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We regret any omission that may have occurred.  
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—Elgin Bokari Smith, Free Write teaching artist

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Stephanie Budd, *Associate Director of Child and Youth Engagement – Urban Farm*  
Alex Cornwell, *Director of Tutoring and Summer Day*  
Abby Farnham, *Guest Services Manager - Elam Davies Social Service Center*  
Catherine Hegarty, *Associate Director for Foundation Relations*  
Natasha Holbert, *Director of the Urban Farm*  
Dan Hula, *Director of the Elam Davies Social Service Center*  
Ryan Keesling, *Director of Free Write Jail Arts and Literacy*  
Jill Keiser, *Operations Manager Elam Davies Social Service Center*  
Jackie Lorens, *Associate Program Manager Elam Davies Social Service Center*  
Andrea Miller, *Associate Director of Development*  
Aaron Mitchell, *Creative Enrichment Coordinator Tutoring and Summer Day*  
Kevin Mulcahy, *Donor Information and Gift Processing Coordinator*  
Kate Solis, *Corporate and External Relations Officer*  
Meghan Stegemann, *Associate Program Director Tutoring and Summer Day*  
Ferne Tiflis, *Program Coordinator Tutoring and Summer Day*  
Tanya Uyigue, *Associate Director of Youth Programs Tutoring*  
Cescily Washington, *Interim Director of Chicago Lights Academic Success in Schools (CLASS)*

“ I joined the Associates Board because I wanted to support the wonderful Chicago Lights programs and the effect CL has on the wider Chicago community. I'm excited about the way the A-Board can get young professionals excited about volunteering and fundraising. People stay engaged in the Associates Board because we make it a fun community that makes a difference.”

– Elizabeth Diebolt