

**Big
Shoulders
Fund.®**

Impact.

YEAR-END REVIEW.

JULY 1, 2011 TO JUNE 30, 2013

Impact.

You want to make an impact. You take great satisfaction in the effort and sacrifice it takes to cause change. So it's easy for you to understand why a principal with a graduate degree in school administration chooses to tackle the problems in Chicago's poorest neighborhoods. Why teachers find joy in watching inner-city students make amazing progress. Why parents work two jobs to support their children's education. Like you, they hunger to make an impact.

Every day, Big Shoulders has a powerful impact on the lives of nearly 24,000 children in 90 inner-city Catholic schools. We can do this important work because of people like you. People who live to make an impact. Read on. Let these pages make an impact on you.



Instant Impact.

Dave and Wendy Dury

In 2000, Dave Dury worked just a few feet from the Big Shoulders Fund offices.

One day he walked in and simply asked, “How can I help?”

A question that always comes from an open mind and a willing heart.

A question that led Dave and Wendy Dury to volunteer in the Patrons Program at St. Stanislaus Kostka, supporting fresh growth and vibrant programs in a much-needed inner-city school. Which led to a program of support for teachers’ summer courses at the Museum of Science and Industry. Which then led to their founding the Big Shoulders Fund STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) Scholarship Program, supporting nearly 90 science scholars in 33 schools. Which came around full circle when Dave’s son Jake became a teacher at a Big Shoulders Fund school.

A simple question. Asked with an open mind and a willing heart.

Instant impact. Far-reaching results.



Leveraged Impact.

The Ryan Family

One way to have an impact is to always seek ways to leverage the contribution. If helping one kid is good, two kids has to be better, right? So, the Ryan family designed the Joseph Cardinal Bernardin (JCB) Scholarship for families who have more than one child in school. Like the Parham family. Single father Renwick Parham saw a future for his three children and a path to reach it. Today, thanks to hard work and the JCB Families Scholarship, Alyssa Parham, a graduate of Notre Dame High School for Girls, is an Honor Roll sophomore at DePaul University. Shelby, on the right, is a senior at St. Benedict Prep, and Renwick Jr. graduated from Our Lady of Grace and is a freshman at St. Benedict Prep.

Or the Tewelde family, who immigrated from Eritrea with three children. JCB Families Scholarship support helped all of them get a solid foundation in their grade school years. Now, the eldest Tewelde has graduated from Rush Medical School and is a pediatrician, the middle Tewelde has graduated from IIT, and the youngest is getting her advanced degree in aerospace engineering from MIT.

From one child, to a family of children, to the entire community.

Talk about leveraged impact.



Lasting Impact.

The Gallagher Family

More than 1,000 students have become Gallagher Scholars. Every year, five new fifth graders from 10 different schools join the program. Their scholarships follow them from fifth grade through 12th grade, the critical transition years from elementary to high school, ensuring these scholars a real chance at a college education. And they receive more than the essential financial support the scholarships provide. Each student and family pledges to commit to the Code of Conduct for Gallagher Scholars:

High goals. Mindful discipline. Selfless dedication. Self-confidence. High motivation. Focused attention. Thorough preparation. Best effort. Personal integrity. Respect for parents and teachers. Positive attitude.

A code with immediate impact on a young student's course of study.

And with lasting impact on the long adult life to follow.



Total Impact.

Principal Candidates

The first love of so many teachers is the children they impact within the walls of their classroom. This commitment is even greater for those who choose to teach in inner-city schools. So it's truly remarkable that this year 12 teachers have elected to extend themselves beyond the classrooms they love. They are pursuing school administrative certification in the Leadership Development Program, part of Big Shoulders' commitment to long-term progress in the area of professional standards, benchmarking, and development. Together with the 16 graduates of the program, these 28 extraordinary educators will some day expand their influence to nearly 7,000 students as administrators, principals, and school leaders.

Will they miss the classroom?

Yes.

Will their passion make an impact in the schools they lead?

Totally.

Enrollment Growth Through Project Enrollment

+

The Access Scholarship

Enrollment growth has been a top priority for Big Shoulders during the past six years, as the organization has recognized that increasing enrollment at inner-city Catholic schools is an essential component in keeping those schools open so students benefit for the long term.

Achieving enrollment growth and stability requires a multifaceted approach. Among the tactics Big Shoulders has employed is enhancing the marketing efforts at schools through Patrons Program support. One example is St. Mary of the Angels School in the West Town neighborhood, which has experienced exceptional growth during the past three years, thanks to the leadership of Principal Beth Dolack and Marketing Director Elise O'Brien. Enrollment for the 2012–13 school year was at 220, up from 125 in 2009–10.

Professional development initiatives to hire and train marketing personnel have contributed to the effectiveness of school marketing efforts, as has a summer fellows program, which deploys college students and recent graduates to promote schools through targeted local marketing efforts such as community events and street fairs.

Supplementing longstanding scholarships that make Catholic school a more affordable option for many families, Big Shoulders provides schools with vouchers as enrollment incentives. Schools receive either 11 or 22 vouchers, each worth \$350, and must provide matching funds. During the 2012–13 school year, this incentive amounted to nearly 1,200 vouchers.

A new program contributing to enrollment is the Big Shoulders Fund Access Scholarship, launched at the beginning of the 2012-2013 school year to serve nearly 500 new students. The program provides scholarships for previous Chicago Public School students to attend Big Shoulders Fund schools.

With the help of generous donors, Big Shoulders Fund is offering a three-year scholarship to new students. The Access Scholarship caps the family contribution toward tuition at \$1,500 per year for elementary students and \$3,000 per year for high school students.

"When I received word about the Access Scholarship, that evening I was able to reenroll a family who had left our school because they could not afford the tuition," said Mariagnes Menden, principal at St. Nicholas of Tolentine. "I was able to grow my enrollment not by one, not by two, but by 15 students."

Naomi Enriques' sons Gabriel (fourth grade) and Johnathan (second grade) now attend St. Catherine - St. Lucy School in the Austin community thanks to support through the Access Scholarship program. "I live with my mom, and she is our primary support system," Enriques said. "I couldn't afford to send my kids to Catholic school on my own salary."

Enriques, who attended St. Catherine - St. Lucy herself, is thrilled with the improvements to her sons' educational experience. "Gabriel is doing a lot better because the classroom environment is much calmer than at his previous school.

St. Catherine - St. Lucy's kids are better behaved and more interested in learning. He's making good friends and having an all-around positive experience. The teachers have been very supportive; they are there every day, which we had a problem with at his other school. He's also getting help with his reading. My second grader is excited about participating in the spelling bee next year when he's in third grade."

The impact of the Access Scholarship, as well as other scholarship programs, marketing support, and vouchers as enrollment incentives, has helped Big Shoulders Fund achieve a milestone. For the first time in Big Shoulders' history, enrollment has grown for four straight years. Big Shoulders expanded the program to reach more than 1,600 new students in the 2013–14 school year.



A vibrant school that has undergone a stunning turnaround after years of declining enrollment, St. Sylvester School in Logan Square is an ideal model for the impact of the Big Shoulders Fund Patrons Program.

For years, Big Shoulders has relied on generous Patrons to turn around many inner-city schools on the brink of closing. Scores of dedicated Patrons have contributed funds and professional expertise, dramatically boosting enrollment and the schools' vitality.

At St. Sylvester's, the dynamic is special due to the longstanding efforts of its initial Patron, Bill Devers, to recruit an impressive group of business leaders to join him. Currently, that Patrons team includes Jim Leider, an entrepreneur who runs Leider Horticultural Companies, Inc.; Harry Kraemer, the retired CEO of Baxter International; Gary Coughlin, the retired CFO of Abbott Laboratories; and Ed Starr, a retired executive at Accenture. Together, the group contributes significant financial resources annually to the school, and several Patrons regularly attend board meetings to offer counsel.

"This is a program that just works," said Coughlin. "That's why I stay involved. It's a terrific organization, and it's good for the city of Chicago." Added Leider, "Rather than just writing a check, we like being involved and giving them moral support and the benefit of our experience."

The St. Sylvester group is working with a progressive and award-winning young principal, Dan Bennett, a former teacher at the school who is a key driver behind the school's rebirth. During the last several years, enrollment has more than doubled, to 300 students.

With the Patrons' support, Bennett has introduced an array of new programs, including a popular summer school program that helps recruit new students, extensive extracurricular activities and sports programs, and alumni outreach programs and newsletters to expand the depth of school support. The Patrons' assistance has helped Bennett introduce interactive white boards, new educational software, and iPads for regular classroom use. Bennett is also starting a new program to have teachers create videos on a variety of academic topics to post on the school website.

The Patrons and Bennett are excited about the relationship they've developed to keep St. Sylvester on its ascent. "I wanted the expertise of people who have been very successful," Devers said. "That has really paid off, because it has helped the school as we make strategic decisions and take actions to move the school forward."

Bennett said the Patrons Board challenges him to think more deeply about a range of issues, such as the impact of strategic marketing, alumni outreach, and advanced technology.

Patrons Program: St. Sylvester



"The presence of Bill and the other Patrons is a motivating challenge for me," Bennett said. "We're all working to make the school better." Devers said the Patrons Board encouraged Bennett to add one new class per grade to build enrollment. For example, the school currently has two classes in each grade through first grade and hopes to add a new second grade class next year. This is a risky decision because the school commits to expanding, then hopes the enrollment numbers justify it. Yet Devers said the strategy has paid off, and he hopes continued growth will help St. Sylvester reach capacity—about 360 students—in five years.

Patron support also provided thousands of dollars in building improvements and allowed teacher Molly Graber to become the assistant principal, freeing Bennett to focus on marketing and outreach to parents.

Having such an esteemed group of Patrons creates a culture of continuous improvement that makes Bennett feel he can't ever rest on his laurels. "There has to be something that draws new people into the school all the time," Bennett said. "When you have a driven group in that Patron's role, that helps make that engagement happen. When you all have the same mindset and goals, you can accomplish a lot."

STEM Programs

In the past five years, a great deal of research has focused on the ever-expanding need for improvements in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education. Studies find that American students are behind their international counterparts, and these discrepancies are far worse for minority and low-income students.

Due to this need, as well as feedback from teachers, principals, and students, Big Shoulders Fund has established three major goals for STEM education and enrichment programs in its schools:

- Increase school and teacher readiness to provide high-quality math and science instruction that promotes high cognitive demand of students
- Increase student interest, especially among low-income minority students, in STEM fields
- Increase student achievement in math and science

The following are a few examples of initiatives designed to help meet these goals.

PNC's Grow Up Great Early Science Learning Initiative

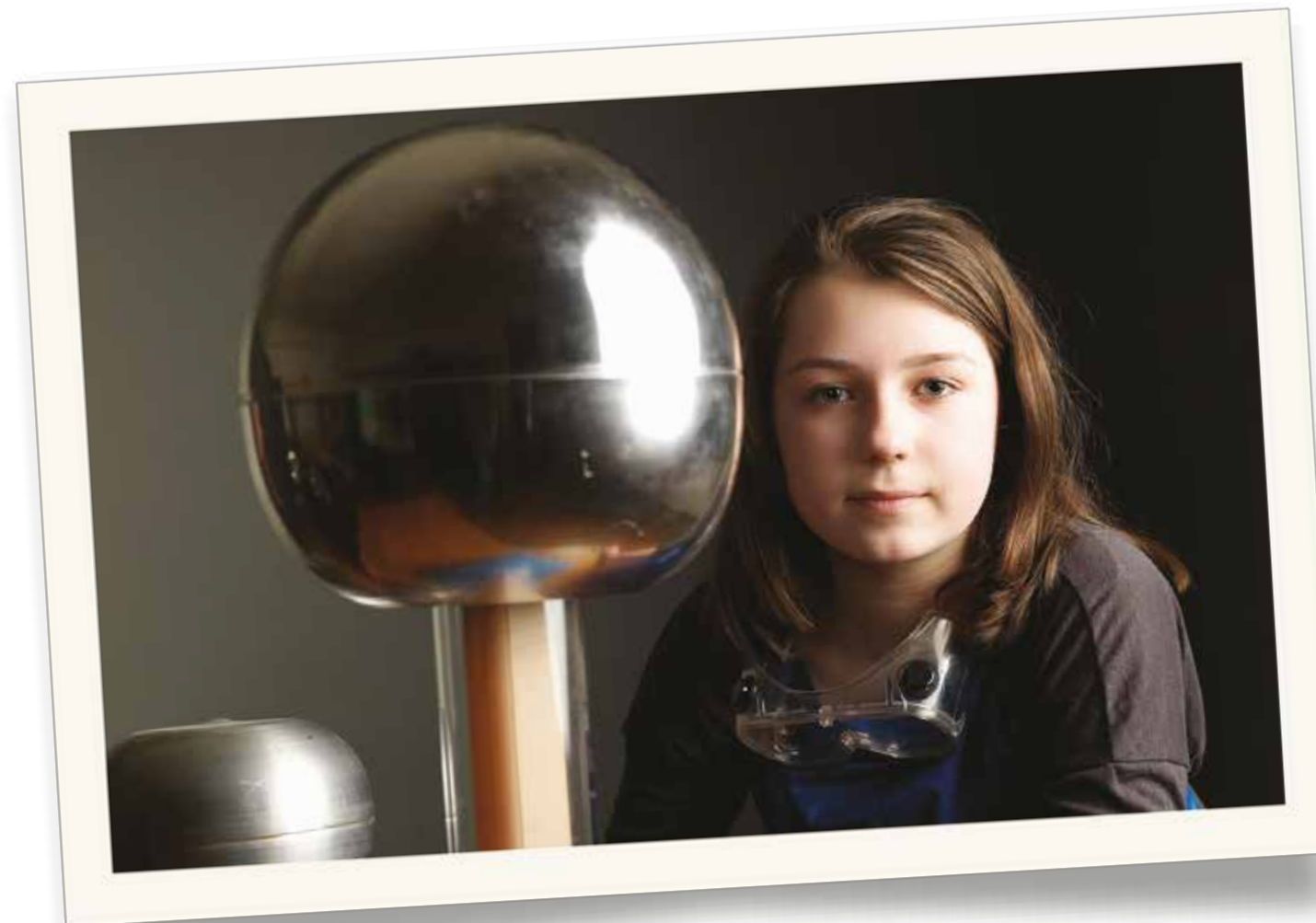
Expanding to a fourth year, this partnership with four major Chicago museums—the Adler Planetarium, The Field Museum, the Museum of Science and Industry, and the Shedd Aquarium—focused on CPS pre-kindergarten (pre-k) programs and 11 Big Shoulders pre-k classrooms. Components included professional development sessions for teachers, developmentally appropriate classroom resources for science inquiry, class and family field trips to museums, and classroom visits by museum representatives for activities and teacher coaching. Now the program is adding online and interactive course work for preschool teachers.

STEM Scholarship Programs

Four years ago, Wendy and Dave Dury initiated the innovative STEM Scholars program that follows students from fifth through eighth grades. The program, under the leadership of Wayne Wittenberg, brings students to school every other Saturday to enrich and engage them in STEM fields and concepts. This year a new program, modeled upon this existing program, creates educational opportunity and support for 24 promising inner-city students from seventh grade through high school graduation. The Exelon Explorers STEM Scholars participate in project-based learning focused on STEM concepts and methods, attending Saturdays during the school year and during the summer through enrichment programs and activities. The program develops students' understanding of science by focusing on active inquiry—experiments, models, and simulations—with dedicated mentors and tutors from the engineering and science communities at Exelon, ComEd, and other resources.

Searle Funds at The Chicago Community Trust and Motorola Solutions Foundation/ Big Shoulders Fund Middle Grades Science Initiative

Big Shoulders Fund has partnered with Loyola University's elementary math and science institute, the Center for Math and Science Education (CMSE), to have science experts provide teachers with professional development. The program uses an intensive, inquiry-based model to enhance middle grade science instruction in 10 schools with graduate course work in science, new Science Education for Public Understanding Program (SEPUP) curriculum, regular professional development, and classroom coaching. Subject-specific training not only strengthens teachers' instructional repertoire, but also enhances student performance. However, without the proper curriculum, manipulatives, consumables, and tools, teachers could not raise the quality of their instruction to the highest level possible. This program is possible only due to support from Searle Funds at The Chicago Community Trust and Motorola Solutions Foundation. Motorola's funding ensures that schools can purchase this high-quality curriculum. Searle Funds at The Chicago Community Trust funds the professional development that empowers teachers to use the curriculum to impact students in a meaningful way.



CME Group Foundation's Early Math Intervention Project

Big Shoulders Fund, with support from the CME Group Foundation, is working with four faculty members from Saint Xavier University's School of Education on an innovative and rigorous three-year early math intervention project. The goal is to improve teachers' classroom practices, thus ensuring that pre-kindergarten (pre-k) through third grade students from Chicago's low-income communities are proficient in mathematics at the appropriate grade or developmental level, with a focus on differentiation and rigor. This project directly impacts approximately 40 teachers and 800 students at five inner-city Catholic elementary schools. Big Shoulders will continue to monitor the impact of this intervention in coming years, but early results are showing significant growth in student learning.



Staddle Camp at Brush Creek Ranch

Big Shoulders launched a summer enrichment program at Brush Creek Ranch in Saratoga, Wyoming in 2011. Funded by Bruce and Beth White with support from other individual Big Shoulders donors, the program aims to enhance science education for seventh and eighth graders, increase their confidence and interest in the field of science, and help prepare them for high school science. Since 2011, nearly 220 students have attended Staddle Camp, and the program will expand to serve even more students this summer. To prepare for the trip, students attend out-of-school science sessions covering astronomy, ecology, and zoology. In addition, students learn about health, wellness, and nutrition from Dan Houlihan of Emergence Fitness.

The Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum Science Club

Four Big Shoulders schools participated in The Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum's Science Club Afterschool Program. Fourth and fifth grade students explored the world through scientific methods and processes and discovered the true nature of science, developing their science process skills by asking questions, making observations, creating models, and conducting experiments. As part of their investigations, students practiced constructing explanations, collaborating with others, and communicating findings. To ensure the program's sustainability beyond the funding available, participating teachers engaged in professional development activities with experienced museum educators to self-guide the science clubs at their schools during the second semester. The teachers have implemented the program with tenacity, reaching double the number of students.



Opening the Doors To All

“The school environment was positively affected. We saw the number of discipline referrals reduced by 50 percent in the first year, and it has improved every year. This decrease in behavioral issues enabled us to deliver instruction in a better way.”

To expand access to the benefits of a Catholic school education to as many students as possible, the Big Shoulders Fund created the Opening the Doors To All (ODTA) program. Loyola University Chicago’s Center for Catholic School Effectiveness (CCSE), under the leadership of Dr. Michael J. Boyle, has implemented the program for four years. ODTA’s goal is to build the capacity of schools and classroom teachers to address the varied needs of all learners, including those with learning disabilities and language obstacles.

“The Catholic Church and its schools must be a welcoming, open door to all,” commented Kathleen Lynch, who, with her husband Bill, sponsors ODTA. “We hope this program helps improve the ability of our schools to serve a broader range of students, from high achievers to challenged learners.”

In 2011–12, ODTA’s third year, six Big Shoulders schools continued to benefit from the program: Northside Catholic Academy, St. Agatha Catholic Academy, St. Angela School, St. Malachy School, St. Matthias School, and Visitation. For 2012–13, through a partnership with Loyola University’s Center for Catholic School Effectiveness and Saint Xavier University’s School of Education, led by Dr. David Bell, Dr. Ruth Rohlwing, and Dr. Maureen Spelman, Big Shoulders expanded the reach and focus to four new schools: Academy of St. Benedict the African-Lafin, Our Lady of Snows, Pope John Paul II, and St. Turibius. The project activities have focused on addressing the development of a curricular program that enables all students to succeed. This strong core curriculum provides the framework for designing a solid, evidence-based foundation for preventing academic and behavioral difficulties. The four main pillars in this approach include curriculum design, instructional strategies, assessment literacy, and behavior management strategies.

The objectives of the professional development and coaching ODTA provides include increasing teachers’ capacity to improve instruction to best meet the needs of different learners; assessing learning weaknesses, then tailoring instruction accordingly; and creating a resource team of teachers and administrators within each school to provide additional support when needed.

During its third year, the six schools received a total of 268 hours of professional development, on-site consultations, and coaching. Teachers developed year-long curriculum plans for all grade levels that focus on differentiated instruction to meet the needs of all students. All project schools have developed universal teams to address building-wide academic and behavioral needs and oversee school improvement efforts to move the building and grade levels along in implementation. And principals reported positively about ODTA’s significant impact.

Said Debra Sullivan, principal of Northside Catholic Academy (NCA), “The program served to help NCA build a solid foundation and capacity for teachers to implement data-based decision-making. Thanks to ODTA, NCA is better able to meet the diverse needs of our students by using data to help us identify those needs early, provide prompt interventions, and monitor the students’ progress. This program also helped us create teacher-led support teams to facilitate and sustain the program over time.”

“The impact of the program has been remarkable,” said Bridgid Miller, principal at St. Malachy School. “We worked diligently and consistently to implement a positive approach to a school-wide behavior management system. The school environment was positively affected. We saw the number of discipline referrals reduced by 50 percent in the first year, and it has improved every year. This decrease in behavioral issues enabled us to deliver instruction in a better way. The progress monitoring conducted three times a year has helped us to keep changing the way we are instructing students to be specific to the deficient areas. The coaching component of the program is outstanding, and the program also developed teacher leaders to keep the program moving forward. This has been the most effective and successful academic program at our school as it has worked on whole school improvement with the focus on every child’s learning needs.”

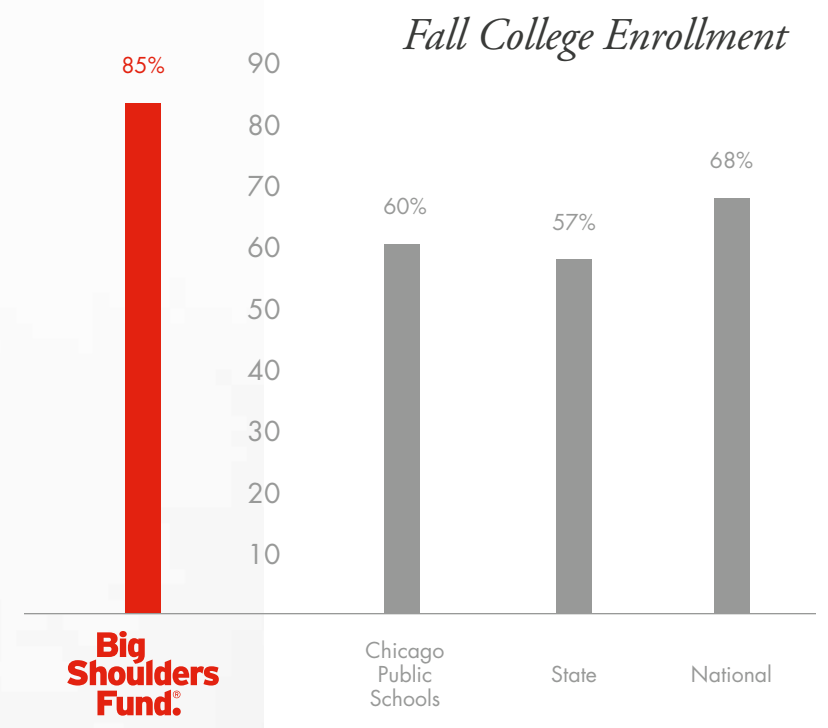
“Our commitment to Big Shoulders is all about the kids,” said Bill Lynch. “Year after year we see the impact Big Shoulders has on our students. Lives are touched and changed—we can only imagine how many more students we don’t see who are positively affected.”

COLLEGE PREPARATION AND ACCESS PROGRAM

While increasing the number of children served in its schools is one of Big Shoulders Fund’s top priorities, the process does not end in elementary school. As students progress to high school, Big Shoulders works with its schools on providing a high-quality college preparatory curriculum to equip students to enroll and graduate from college. Those students without family members who finished high school or attended college face additional challenges. As students enter high school with limited knowledge of the college process, they require resources to prepare for college—academically, socially, and financially.

In 2011–12, with generous support from John and Mary Raitt, Big Shoulders launched its College Preparation and Access Program to provide resources to its renewable scholars. Among the program’s components are:

Test preparation, including access to PrepMe, an individualized software program that helps prepare students for college tests; this program served nearly 100 students in its pilot year, and Big Shoulders trained school-based coordinators at four Big Shoulders Fund high schools to support students in the program. Big Shoulders Fund scholars do not typically have the financial resources to access expensive test prep programs, and this approach addresses that need and helps to level the playing field in college admissions.



College Summer Enrichment Program, which supports juniors and seniors who wish to attend summer programs on college and university campuses. These enrichment programs not only help address the learning deficit than can occur during the summer break, but also provide Big Shoulders Fund scholars and their families an opportunity to experience what it might be like to attend college away from home.

Overall, the goal of the program is to open opportunities for these students to succeed as they graduate from high school, explore options for college, and consider their futures beyond school.

“Thank you for making it possible for me to attend the United States Naval Academy Summer Seminar,” wrote St. Rita High School student Jonathan Holubik. “I plan to pursue a career in Marine Biology or Environmental Science. This experience allowed me to attend classes and seminars and learn about the many branches of the military. ... I have applied to the Coast Guard and pray that I get in. In addition, I was able to travel to the east coast, which I had never seen, and had the opportunity to go to Washington D.C. This is definitely an educational experience I will never forget.”

Jacqueline Orozco of Cristo Rey Jesuit High School attended a summer program at the School of Cinema and Performing Arts (SOCAPA) in New York City, studying contemporary dance. “I was able to become open and willing to do anything that was put in my way,” she wrote. “SOCAPA also impacted my life by exposing me to people from around the world... As a young Hispanic teenage dancer, being able to dance with others that loved to do the same was an unforgettable experience. I was able to go to college tours in New York... this experience has been a wonderful one that has helped me realize what I would like to do in the future.”

Big Shoulders has made progress through the College Preparation and Access Program and it is important to evaluate outcomes, including college enrollment and persistence. Four years ago, Big Shoulders Fund began contracting with National Student Clearinghouse to track renewable scholarship students’ enrollment in college, and the news has been very encouraging. College attendance data indicates that 85 percent of Big Shoulders’ renewable scholars attend college, ahead of their statewide (57 percent) and national (68 percent) counterparts. The average rate of persistence between freshman and sophomore years among Big Shoulders’ renewable scholars from this period is 92 percent.



Next Generation Initiatives: Auxiliary Board + Chairmen’s Advisory Council + Leadership Development Program

The Big Shoulders Fund leadership understands the necessity of not only strengthening and supporting inner-city Catholic schools today, but also sustaining and ensuring that each year’s progress grows and lasts for years to come. Several Big Shoulders programs aim to accomplish this goal.

The Auxiliary Board, founded in 2007, is different from other young professional boards in that its priority is volunteering—in a school or on a committee—and advocating for Big Shoulders Fund students and schools in the community. Members are making a difference by serving as mentors, tutors, school board members, coaches, instructors, and service-day volunteers. The group hosts at least one event each month, including six service days, six socials, two major fundraisers, two board meetings, networking events, and other activities throughout the year. In addition, four committees—fundraising, service, membership, and marketing/communications—meet monthly. Through partnerships with universities, alumni associations, businesses, religious groups, and other civic organizations and clubs, the Auxiliary Board has increased awareness of Big Shoulders to more than 3,775 people and raised more than \$640,000 in the past seven years. During 2012–13, the Auxiliary Board built on this success, increasing funds raised to more than \$144,000.

Now numbering nearly 300 members, the Auxiliary Board provided more than 3,000 hours of service in Big Shoulders schools during the 2011–12 year and raised more than \$135,000 for the Big Shoulders Fund Auxiliary Board Scholarship, resulting in the distribution of scholarships to 120 students.

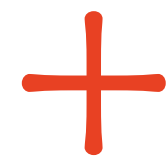


Originally founded in 2007 as a board development committee, the Chairmen’s Advisory Council (CAC) bridges Big Shoulders’ “Next Generation” civic leadership efforts from the Auxiliary Board to the Board of Directors.

The CAC has grown to nearly 100 professionals who support Big Shoulders’ reach and impact in the schools through financial contributions and service, either in the schools or on a CAC committee (executive, membership, service, communications, and various ad hoc committees). The CAC increased funds raised in 2012–13 to \$215,000. Many CAC members also volunteered in the schools as mentors, school board members, and tutors. Between the Auxiliary Board and CAC members, more than 25 served as volunteer instructors in Big Shoulders’ Stock Market Program.

Last year, the CAC launched a Networking Breakfast speaker series featuring civic leaders who shared personal experiences of leveraging their business success to support civic engagement efforts. Speakers have included Ron Gidwitz, co-founder and partner, GCG Partners; Andy McKenna, non-executive chairman, McDonalds Corporation; Patrick G. Ryan, Jr. founder and CEO, Incisent Labs; Glenn Tilton, chairman of the Midwest, JP Morgan Chase; and Michael Keiser, co-founder, Recycled Paper Greetings and founder, Bandon Dunes Golf Course.

The CAC has also worked to increase participation in Lend A Shoulder Day, an annual fall event that brings members of the business, donor, and civic communities to see firsthand the efforts and progress at Big Shoulders schools and make the event more engaging and impactful for all participants.



The future of inner-city Catholic education depends on dynamic, strong leadership development models that empower and strengthen lay leadership for schools. In each of the last three years, 15 to 20 percent of Big Shoulders Fund principal positions have been open, requiring 14 to 18 recruits. So the need for new leadership is real and immediate.

Big Shoulders’ Leadership Development Program (LDP) aims to help fill this need through a four-pronged strategy aimed at recruiting, preparing, supporting, and retaining school leaders. The first step is recruiting highly qualified teachers and other candidates from around the country who represent diverse communities and are committed to inner-city Catholic education. The program then prepares these individuals for leadership by facilitating their academic work toward master’s degrees, credentialing, supporting their acquisition of core skills—financial management, marketing, fundraising, and facilities management—and creating an “esprit de corps” to build excitement, trust, and commitment.

As candidates develop skills and confidence, Big Shoulders provides opportunities for apprenticeships (as assistant principals or curriculum leaders), best practice sharing, networking, and ongoing coaching from experienced leaders. Once they assume leadership positions, the program continues to support them through accelerated instructional leadership, school and network support, and opportunities to mentor young leaders themselves.

The program currently has 12 leadership candidates and 16 graduates working in schools. An anonymous gift offers the opportunity to prepare nearly 20 more leaders for Big Shoulders Fund schools. This funding will help Big Shoulders develop a framework to home in on the skills that candidates need to develop to effectively lead inner-city Catholic schools.

“Big Shoulders seemed to be a very logical place to invest because they’re so diverse. The schools are spread throughout the various neighborhoods in the city, and I like their independence from the Archdiocese. It allows them to be laser-focused on the inner city.”

—John Buck

Planned giving.

Impressed with Big Shoulders Fund’s proven track record of reviving struggling inner-city Catholic schools, a growing number of supporters are setting aside planned gifts to ensure the organization’s long-term success.

John Kofler, who is retired, is directing a portion of his planned giving to Big Shoulders. “I wanted to give back to a really worthwhile mission, one that I believe is being executed extremely well. That’s how I see Big Shoulders. It’s an investment in underprivileged students and in America’s future.”

Kofler was introduced to Big Shoulders several years ago through a friend who supported St. Angela Elementary School in the Austin community, just east of Oak Park. On the brink of closing less than a decade ago, the school has experienced steady enrollment growth, from 200 students to 400.

Integral to that uphill climb is the school’s leadership and its Patrons Board, a group of business leaders, parents, and philanthropic sponsors who help the principal guide the school. A member of the board, Kofler believed St. Angela’s many accomplishments made the case for Big Shoulders.

According to Kofler, St. Angela’s principal, GERALYN LAWLER, has established such a positive culture that the school has become a true beacon in the community, attracting a steadily increasing number of preschool and primary grade students. “I think the children there are getting an education that is a real foundation for the rest of their lives,” Kofler said. “They’re being infused with discipline, respect, high standards, integrity, and responsibility.”

Big Shoulders President and CEO Josh Hale noted that bequests are a growing area of support, with many leaders looking to Big Shoulders when they review their estate plans. “Increasingly, people are coming to us and saying, ‘We want to ensure Big Shoulders is around for many years in the future,’” Hale said. “It’s great to see so many people coming forward to help.”

Recent accolades have fueled investors’ confidence. *Chicago* magazine featured Big Shoulders as one of 15 charities that meet the gold standard in making superb use of donations. Charity Navigator, an independent evaluator, lauded Big Shoulders for earmarking 92 percent of its funds solely to support the nearly 24,000 children the organization serves. In measuring efficiency, transparency, and accountability, Charity Navigator has awarded Big Shoulders a Four Star Rating for six consecutive years, which is particularly significant given only three percent of charities nationally have received at least six consecutive Four Star Ratings.

Big Shoulders has used bequests to support various programs, including scholarship initiatives that have a lasting impact on the people they serve. As an example, a bequest from the estate of Patricia Lanctot is currently sponsoring renewable scholarships for 30 students at two elementary schools whose student populations are 83 percent and 88 percent low-income, respectively. The scholarship follows the students from lower elementary grades through eighth grade.

John Buck, chairman and CEO of The John Buck Company, and his wife Kathleen are among the many supporters who’ve set aside planned gifts for Big Shoulders. The Bucks’ leadership and support have been instrumental to the success of a number of Chicago’s most distinct educational initiatives, including San Miguel School and Cristo Rey Jesuit High School. In addition, The John Buck Company’s celebrated Spring Fling event has raised funds for a different Chicago nonprofit in each of the last 25 years.

“Big Shoulders seemed to be a very logical place to invest because they’re so diverse,” commented Buck. “The schools are spread throughout the various neighborhoods in the city, and I like their independence from the Archdiocese. It allows them to be laser-focused on the inner city.”

“I feel very strongly about Catholic schools and the many benefits they provide their students,” added Kathleen Buck, who tutored inner-city children for many years as a volunteer. “I find the kids who go to Catholic schools have a much better chance for success.”



(L–R) Mrs. Shirley Ryan, Mr. Patrick Ryan, Jr., and Mr. Renwick Parham and his children in 2006. Please refer to page seven for an update on the Parham family.

Continuing a longstanding tradition of support to Big Shoulders Fund, the Ryan family recently honored the organization with a second commitment of \$10 million, which will fund scholarships to families with multiple children attending inner-city schools.

The Ryan Family Renews Support of the Joseph Cardinal Bernardin Scholarship for Families

This extremely generous donation gives Big Shoulders a significant boost in its mission to provide a high-quality, Catholic education to some of the city’s neediest children, transforming the lives of hundreds of families.

The gift builds on a 1996 commitment of \$10 million from the Ryan family. The latest scholarships will support students during the next 10 years. These scholarships are typically \$1,500 for elementary students and \$3,000 for high school students.

As in the early years, the Ryans’ donation aims to help families struggling with tuition but eager for a top-notch, values-based education. Initially anonymous, the first Ryan gift established the Joseph Cardinal Bernardin Scholarship for Families, or JCB Families Scholarship. Today, the Ryan contribution is no longer a well-kept secret, in the hope that other prominent business and philanthropic leaders will recognize the Ryans’ level of commitment to the Big Shoulders model and join them in their support.

For decades, the Ryan family has been among Big Shoulders’ largest supporters. Patrick Ryan, Sr., former chairman of Aon Corp., and his wife Shirley are among the organization’s earliest and most significant backers. Their son Patrick Ryan, Jr. has become one of the city’s most passionate educational reform leaders, serving Catholic and public schools, and is the founder of the Inner-City Teaching Corps (ICTC), which places outstanding college graduates as teachers in high-poverty Chicago Catholic schools.

In addition to his work with ICTC, Pat Ryan, Jr. opened a charter school, Alain Locke, in 1999, and also launched the Accelerate Institute, which helps the most accomplished teachers and principals in the U.S. greatly advance student achievement in urban schools. Big Shoulders has enjoyed a long partnership with the Accelerate Institute to develop school leaders now and for the future.

Big Shoulders Co-Chairman Monsignor Kenneth Velo, who was quite moved by the Ryan family’s decision to renew their initial gift, remembers well the night the Ryans first made an announcement that would forever expand the reach and impact of Big Shoulders Fund. It was September 4, 1996; the Ryans had invited Monsignor Velo and Joseph Cardinal Bernardin to dinner in their downtown apartment. Monsignor Velo was serving as the Cardinal’s assistant at the time.

At the end of the meal, the Ryans, with their three sons, announced their \$10 million gift, which was the largest single grant Big Shoulders had ever received.

“It made the dessert very pleasant,” Monsignor Velo joked. The family’s decision had an especially profound effect on Cardinal Bernardin, who passed away in 1996.

“It was such a monumental and life-changing contribution for Big Shoulders,” Monsignor Velo said. “The Cardinal was totally surprised and extremely pleased by their generosity. He was particularly impressed that the five of them had collaborated and made this decision together.”

Monsignor Velo said he is also impressed by the time and energy Pat Ryan, Jr. has given to Big Shoulders, and to inner-city education in general, since the early 1990s.

“He has provided us with teachers for our inner-city schools who are young and enthusiastic and extremely bright graduates from top-notch college programs,” he remarked. “Pat has made a monumentally significant contribution of time and effort, and the program has offered us great results as well as a real shot in the arm for our schools.”

Sister Claudia Carrillo, principal of Immaculate Conception elementary school in South Chicago, said the expansion of the JCB Families Scholarship has had a major impact on her high-poverty families, many of whom are Mexican immigrants hoping to give their children a better life.

Just recently, Sister Claudia informed the youngest child of a family with four children that he had received the scholarship. His face lit up, and the boy quickly ran to his mother’s side, telling her that her worries would now go away.

“Some of our students improve so much after receiving the scholarship because they know there’s a chance for them, and now they could have a great future,” Sister Claudia said. “It’s such a blessing.”

GALLAGHER SCHOLARSHIP REACHES MILESTONE



Jane and Bob Gallagher.

(L–R) Kate Gallagher and Dan Goese, Anne Gallagher and Richard O'Malley, and Cissy and Bill Glading.

Each year since 1994, the Gallagher Family and Big Shoulders Fund have randomly selected 10 elementary schools to each nominate five rising fifth graders for the Gallagher Scholarship, which is renewable through 12th grade. As part of that nomination process last year, the Gallagher Scholarship Program reached a milestone, sponsoring its 1,000th student!

Principals at Big Shoulders schools are thrilled when they are selected, knowing the difference this scholarship can make for families at their schools.

"The Gallagher Scholarship has been instrumental in keeping a number of our children enrolled," said Charles Carroll, principal of St. John de la Salle School. "Our school is located in Roseland, one of the communities hit hardest by the downturn in the economy, with many people unemployed. Without this assistance, many families in our community would find Catholic education unaffordable. Catholic schools and parents are indebted to the Gallagher family for their support. They are truly a blessing to us."

The Gallagher Scholarship is one of Big Shoulders' longest running scholarship programs and has contributed to a number of great outcomes for students. Approximately three out of four Gallagher Scholars in eighth grade choose to continue on to college-prep, Catholic high schools annually, which helps set them up for long-term success. In the class of 2012, 85 percent of Gallagher Scholars enrolled in college

this past fall, at a rate ahead of their local, state, and national peers. From the classes of 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2012, 80 percent are currently enrolled at colleges including DePaul University, Kenyon College, Loyola University Chicago, Syracuse University, and the University of Illinois.

"I think the 'secret weapon' of the program is the Code of Conduct for Gallagher Scholars written by my father," said Bob Gallagher, Jr. "It's an 11-point program for success in school, but also applies to whatever the students choose to pursue after graduation."

Originally nominated for the Gallagher Scholarship as a fifth grader at St. Helen Elementary School, Erik Almazan graduated from St. Ignatius College Prep. He enrolled at the University of Chicago as a member of the class of 2017.

Almazan explained, "The Gallagher Scholarship was very important because it allowed me to go to Catholic school and grow not only socially and intellectually, but also spiritually. Growing spiritually is important and unique to Catholic education and is part of what the Gallagher Scholarship provided to me."

The Gallagher Scholarship Program continues on in perpetuity thanks to the generosity of the late Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Gallagher and the leadership of their children Jane and Bob Gallagher, Kate Gallagher and Dan Goese, Anne Gallagher and Richard O'Malley, and Cissy and Bill Glading. The impact of this family is affecting students' lives every day.

1,000 STUDENTS.



(L-R) President and Chief Executive Officer Josh Hale and Co-Chairmen John A. Canning Jr., Monsignor Kenneth J. Velo, and James J. O'Connor.

Leadership Message.

Our world has become increasingly electronic, measurable, and fast-paced. Though in many ways this makes us more efficient, we must not risk losing sight of the people involved. While we are concerned with the impact and efficacy of our programs, people remain front and center at Big Shoulders Fund. We know it is only through and with people that we can make an impact.

Each of you has made an impact on the students and schools that Big Shoulders Fund serves. It is enlightening to view your impact through the lens of students' many first-time experiences your support has made possible. Thanks to you, 2011-13 brought many "firsts" to our students' lives. The first years of the Access Scholarship enabled nearly 2000 students to transfer to a Big Shoulders Fund school, and for almost all of them it was their first opportunity to attend a Big Shoulders Fund school. Nearly 220 students attended Staddle Camp at Brush Creek Ranch in Wyoming, where hands-on science education captured their minds and scientific imaginations in a new way. Last fall, 82 percent of Big Shoulders Fund renewable scholars from the class of 2012 entered college for the first time, enrolling at DePaul University, University of Illinois, Syracuse University, and other schools. Once again, this percentage was higher than city, state, and national averages.

For the third consecutive year, even more parents chose to enroll their children in Big Shoulders Fund schools. Seeking impact, like our donors, these parents believe the choice to attend a Big Shoulders Fund school will lead to a trajectory of success for their children, and the results are holding true. By seventh grade, on average, students perform at or above grade level; by the end of eighth grade, nearly 80 percent choose to enroll in quality, college-prep high schools; and 85 percent of high school scholars enroll in college. With your support, Big Shoulders Fund will do its part to ensure that low-income parents and guardians can continue to make this choice. During 2012-13, Big Shoulders distributed \$14.4 million overall, with \$5.6 million in scholarships to more than 4,600 students. Through marketing efforts focused on growing enrollment, sponsored in large part by Big Shoulders Fund Patrons, strengthening academic and enrichment programs, and increasing scholarship support, we are getting the word out about our schools, and Chicago's families are responding.

Our students, in turn, have positively impacted the lives of many of you in ways that keep you actively involved in our community. We express our sincerest thanks for the generosity, support, and enthusiasm of our Board of Directors, Patrons, mentors, scholarship sponsors, volunteers, and Auxiliary Board and Chairmen's Advisory Council members, as well as our schools' teachers and principals and the extraordinarily talented staff of Big Shoulders. In the years to come, we expect this community will continue to grow and impact the lives of many more deserving children.

Impact is possible only because of you.

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As of June 30, 2012 and 2011

	2012	2011
ASSETS		
CASH & CASH EQUIVALENTS	\$ 5,453,592	\$ 1,878,502
INVESTMENTS	36,684,280	37,821,970
PLEDGES RECEIVABLE – Net	8,890,484	7,063,303
OTHER ASSETS	644,776	73,678
TOTAL	\$ 51,673,132	\$ 46,837,453
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
PLEDGES & ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	\$ 2,878,121	\$ 3,846,898
DEFERRED REVENUE	174,400	272,600
Total liabilities	3,052,521	4,119,498
NET ASSETS:		
Unrestricted	23,189,820	20,863,968
Temporarily restricted	20,126,034	16,642,822
Permanently restricted	5,304,757	5,211,165
Total net assets	48,620,611	42,717,955
TOTAL	\$ 51,673,132	\$ 46,837,453

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN FISCAL 2012

1,452 Donors contributed funds in fiscal year 2012, an increase over the prior year.

4,158 Students received scholarships.

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

For the years ended June 30, 2012 and 2011

	2012				2011			
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
REVENUES								
Contributions (net of School Major Gift Campaign contributions)	\$ 3,922,604	\$ 11,047,568	\$ 93,592	\$ 15,063,764	\$ 2,789,062	\$ 8,051,123	\$ 30,200	\$ 10,870,385
Net special event revenue	3,326,230	2,330		3,328,560	562,162	2,840		565,002
Net investment return (excluding School Major Gift Campaign)	(411,789)	(109,544)		(521,333)	3,952,987	1,223,498		5,176,485
Less amounts designated to other organizations by donors		(736,245)		(736,245)		(821,236)		(821,236)
Net assets released from restrictions	6,720,897	(6,720,897)			7,802,369	(7,802,369)		
Total revenues	13,557,942	3,483,212	93,592	17,134,746	15,106,580	653,856	30,200	15,790,636
EXPENSES								
Program expense	10,031,126			10,031,126	12,107,280			12,107,280
Management expense	679,233			679,233	515,298			515,298
Fundraising expense	521,731			521,731	401,968			401,968
Total expenses	11,232,090			11,232,090	13,024,546			13,024,546
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	2,325,852	3,483,212	93,592	5,902,656	2,082,034	653,856	30,200	2,766,090
NET ASSETS – Beginning of year	20,863,968	16,642,822	5,211,165	42,717,955	18,781,934	15,988,966	5,180,965	39,951,865
NET ASSETS – End of year	\$ 23,189,820	\$ 20,126,034	\$ 5,304,757	\$ 48,620,611	\$ 20,863,968	\$ 16,642,822	\$ 5,211,165	\$ 42,717,955

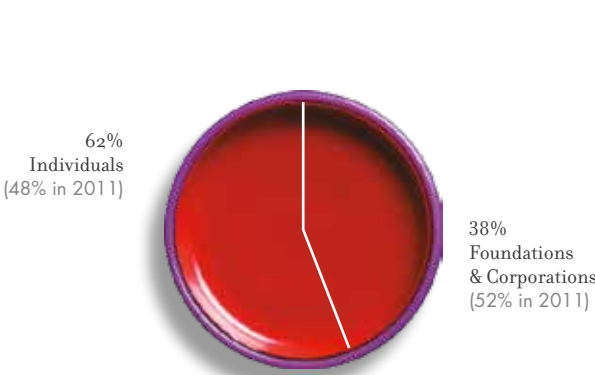
SUMMARIES OF EXPENSES

For the years ended June 30, 2012 and 2011

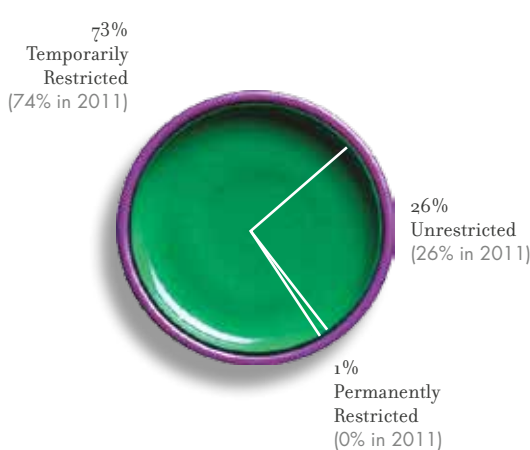
	Program Expenses	Management Expenses	Fundraising Expenses	Total Expenses	Program Expenses	Management Expenses	Fundraising Expenses	Total Expenses
Operating, capital, and other grants, and other program expense	\$ 5,949,404	\$	\$	\$ 5,949,404	\$ 8,125,530	\$	\$	\$ 8,125,530
Scholarships	4,014,143			4,014,143	3,928,520			3,928,520
Less expended amounts designated to other organizations by donors	(760,057)			(760,057)	(755,467)			(755,467)
Net grants and scholarship expenses	9,203,490			9,203,490	11,298,583			11,298,583
Administrative expenses	827,636	679,233	521,731	2,028,600	808,697	515,298	401,968	1,725,963
Total expenses	\$ 10,031,126	\$ 679,233	\$ 521,731	\$ 11,232,090	\$ 12,107,280	\$ 515,298	\$ 401,968	\$ 13,024,546

Note: The statements of activities and the summaries of expenses exclude revenues and expenses relating to the School Major Gift Campaign, which was a special fundraising campaign administered by Big Shoulders Fund on behalf of the Archdiocese of Chicago.

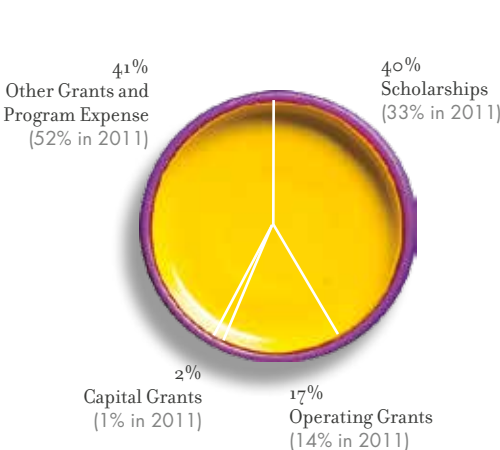
2012 CONTRIBUTIONS BY DONOR TYPE



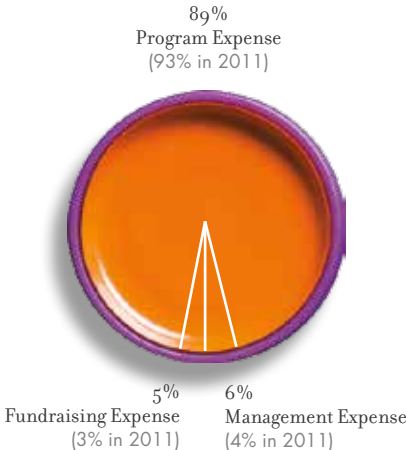
2012 CONTRIBUTIONS BY TYPE OF RESTRICTION



2012 GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS BY TYPE



2012 EXPENSES BY FUNCTION



STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As of June 30, 2013 and 2012

	2013	2012
ASSETS		
CASH & CASH EQUIVALENTS	\$ 6,927,926	\$ 5,453,592
INVESTMENTS	38,973,094	36,684,280
PLEDGES RECEIVABLE – Net	15,773,257	8,890,484
OTHER ASSETS	414,192	644,776
TOTAL	\$ 62,088,469	\$ 51,673,132
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
PLEDGES & ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	\$ 1,836,788	\$ 2,878,121
DEFERRED REVENUE	192,300	174,400
Total liabilities	2,029,088	3,052,521
NET ASSETS:		
Unrestricted	24,683,234	23,189,820
Temporarily restricted	29,741,390	20,126,034
Permanently restricted	5,634,757	5,304,757
Total net assets	60,059,381	48,620,611
TOTAL	\$ 62,088,469	\$ 51,673,132

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

For the years ended June 30, 2013 and 2012

	2013				2012			
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
REVENUES								
Contributions (net of School Major Gift Campaign contributions)	\$ 3,606,910	\$ 16,406,627	\$ 330,000	\$ 20,343,537	\$ 3,922,604	\$ 11,047,568	\$ 93,592	\$ 15,063,764
Net special event revenue	980,783			980,783	3,326,230	2,330		3,328,560
Net investment return (excluding School Major Gift Campaign)	3,120,042	1,043,309		4,163,351	(411,789)	(109,544)		(521,333)
Less amounts designated to other organizations by donors		(771,142)		(771,142)		(736,245)		(736,245)
Net assets released from restrictions	7,063,438	(7,063,438)			6,720,897	(6,720,897)		
Total revenues	14,771,173	9,615,356	330,000	24,716,529	13,557,942	3,483,212	93,592	17,134,746
EXPENSES								
Program expense	11,941,573			11,941,573	10,031,126			10,031,126
Management expense	803,241			803,241	679,233			679,233
Fundraising expense	532,945			532,945	521,731			521,731
Total expenses	13,277,759			13,277,759	11,232,090			11,232,090
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	1,493,414	9,615,356	330,000	11,438,770	2,325,852	3,483,212	93,592	5,902,656
NET ASSETS – Beginning of year	23,189,820	20,126,034	5,304,757	48,620,611	20,863,968	16,642,822	5,211,165	42,717,955
NET ASSETS – End of year	\$ 24,683,234	\$ 29,741,390	\$ 5,634,757	\$ 60,059,381	\$ 23,189,820	\$ 20,126,034	\$ 5,304,757	\$ 48,620,611

SUMMARIES OF EXPENSES

For the years ended June 30, 2013 and 2012

	Program Expenses	Management Expenses	Fundraising Expenses	Total Expenses	Program Expenses	Management Expenses	Fundraising Expenses	Total Expenses
Operating, capital, and other grants, and other program expense	\$ 6,200,718	\$	\$	\$ 6,200,718	\$ 5,949,404	\$	\$	\$ 5,949,404
Scholarships	5,697,392			5,697,392	4,014,143			4,014,143
Less expended amounts designated to other organizations by donors	(714,525)			(714,525)	(760,057)			(760,057)
Net grants and scholarship expenses	11,183,585			11,183,585	9,203,490			9,203,490
Administrative expenses	757,988	803,241	532,945	2,094,174	827,636	679,233	521,731	2,028,600
Total expenses	\$ 11,941,573	\$ 803,241	\$ 532,945	\$ 13,277,759	\$ 10,031,126	\$ 679,233	\$ 521,731	\$ 11,232,090

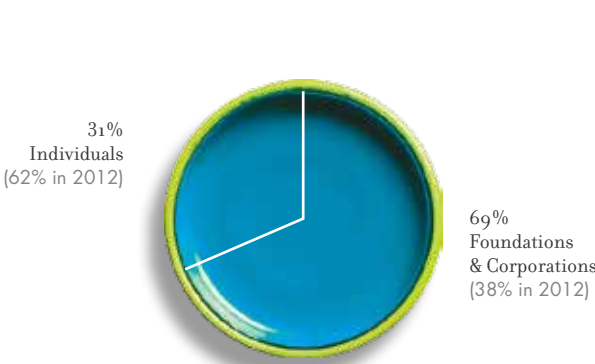
Note: The statements of activities and the summaries of expenses for 2012 exclude revenues and expenses relating to the School Major Gift Campaign, which was a special fundraising campaign administered by Big Shoulders Fund on behalf of the Archdiocese of Chicago. The Campaign ended as of June 30, 2012.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN FISCAL 2013

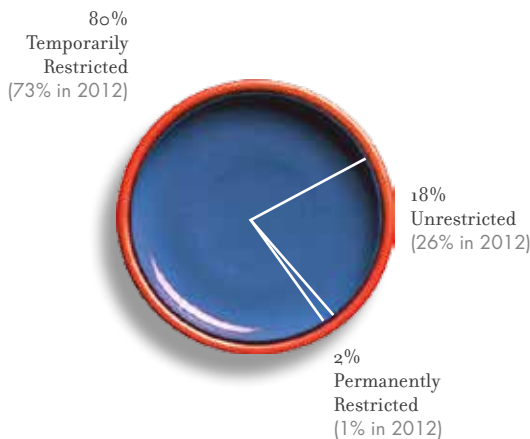
1,815 Donors contributed funds in fiscal year 2013, an increase over the prior year.

4,622 Students received scholarships.

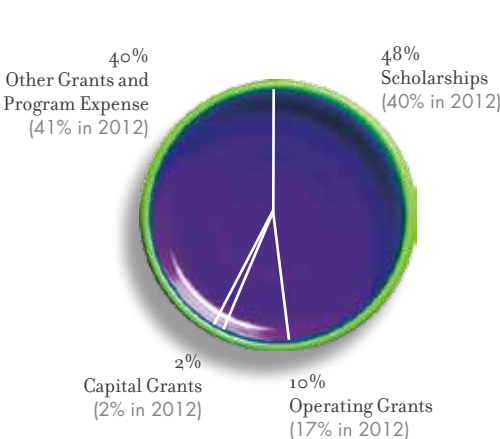
2013 CONTRIBUTIONS BY DONOR TYPE



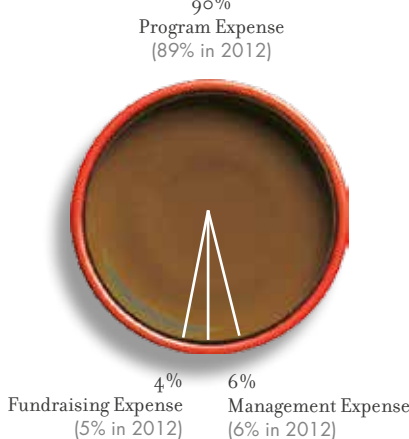
2013 CONTRIBUTIONS BY TYPE OF RESTRICTION



2013 GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS BY TYPE



2013 EXPENSES BY FUNCTION



90 inner-city schools serving 51 Chicago communities. 24,000 students.
80% are minorities, 30% are not Catholic, and 61% are low income.

BIG SHOULDERS FUND PATRON SCHOOLS

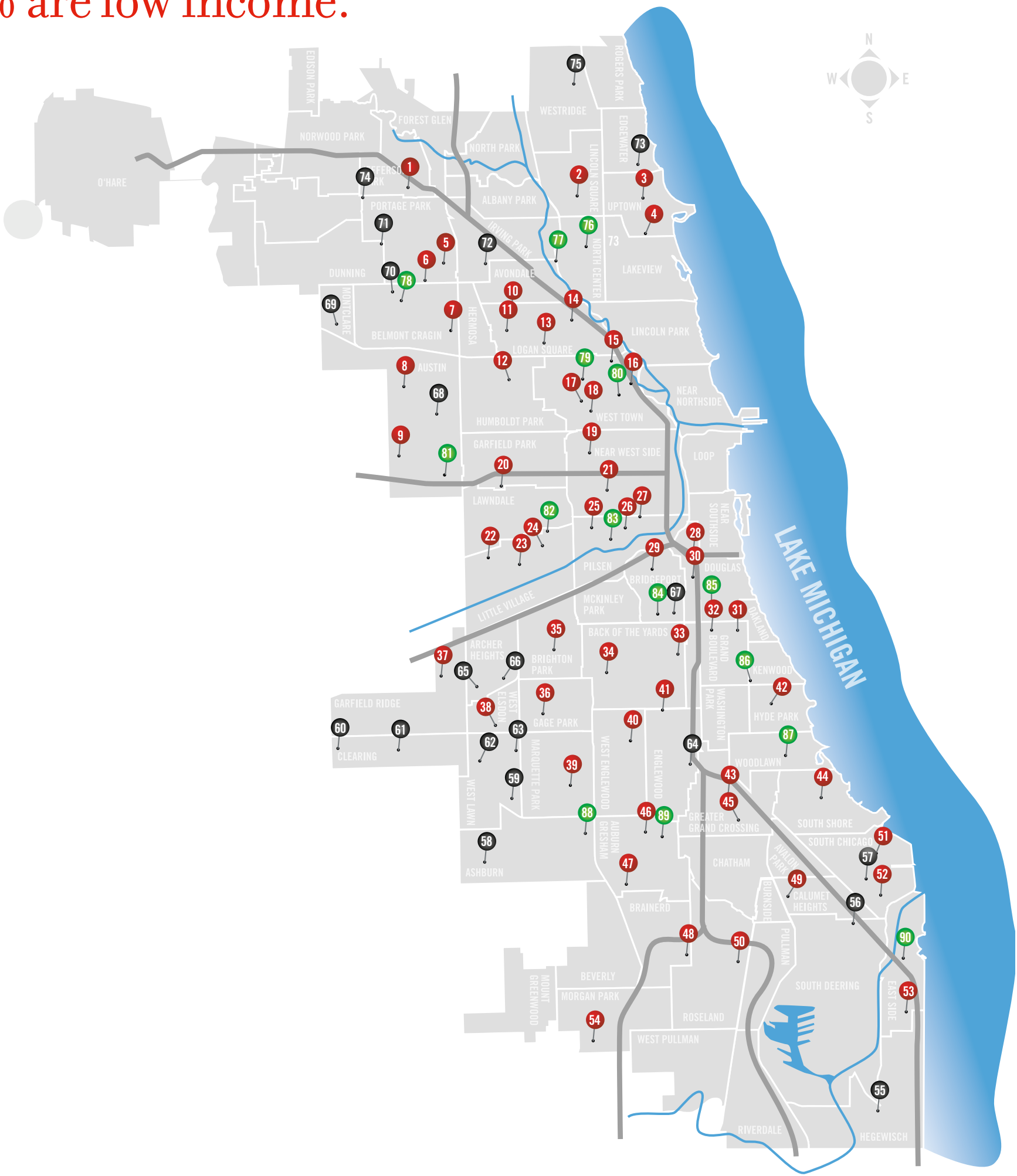
- 1. ST. CONSTANCE SCHOOL
- 2. ST. MATTHIAS
- 3. ST. THOMAS OF CANTERBURY
- 4. ST. MARY OF THE LAKE
- 5. ST. BARTHOLOMEW
- 6. ST. LADISLAUS
- 7. ST. GENEVIEVE
- 8. ST. ANGELA
- 9. ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA/ST. LUCY
- 10. ST. HYACINTH
- 11. OUR LADY OF GRACE
- 12. MATERNITY BVM
- 13. ST. SYLVESTER
- 14. ST. JOHN BERCHMANS
- 15. ST. MARY OF THE ANGELS
- 16. ST. STANISLAUS KOSTKA
- 17. ST. HELEN
- 18. ST. NICHOLAS CATHEDRAL
- 19. ST. MALACHY
- 20. ST. AGATHA CATHOLIC ACADEMY
- 21. CHILDREN OF PEACE
- 22. EPIPHANY
- 23. ST. AGNES OF BOHEMIA
- 24. OUR LADY OF TEPEYAC
- 25. ST. ANN
- 26. ST. PIUS V
- 27. ST. PROCOPIUS
- 28. ST. THERESE
- 29. ST. BARBARA
- 30. SANTA LUCIA
- 31. HOLY ANGELS
- 32. ST. ELIZABETH
- 33. ST. GABRIEL
- 34. SAN MIGUEL - BACK OF THE YARDS
- 35. POPE JOHN PAUL II
- 36. ST. GALL
- 37. OUR LADY OF THE SNOWS
- 38. ST. TURIBIUS
- 39. NATIVITY BVM
- 40. ACADEMY OF ST. BENEDICT THE AFRICAN - LAFLIN
- 41. VISITATION
- 42. ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE
- 43. ST. COLUMBANUS
- 44. ST. PHILIP NERI
- 45. ST. DOROTHY
- 46. ST. ETHELREDA
- 47. ST. MARGARET OF SCOTLAND
- 48. ST. JOHN DE LA SALLE
- 49. ST. MICHAEL
- 50. OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE
- 51. ANNUNCIATA
- 52. ST. WALTER
- 53. ST. SABINA
- 54. ST. AILBE

BIG SHOULDERS FUND SCHOOLS

- 55. IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
- 56. ST. FLORIAN
- 57. SACRED HEART
- 58. ST. BEDE THE VENERABLE
- 59. QUEEN OF THE UNIVERSE
- 60. ST. RENE GOUPIL
- 61. ST. SYMPHOROSA
- 62. ST. MARY STAR OF THE SEA
- 63. ST. NICHOLAS OF TOLENTINE
- 64. ACADEMY OF ST. BENEDICT THE AFRICAN-STEWART
- 65. ST. RICHARD
- 66. ST. BRUNO
- 67. BRIDGEPORT CATHOLIC ACADEMY
- 68. CHICAGO JESUIT ACADEMY
- 69. ST. WILLIAM
- 70. ST. FERDINAND
- 71. ST. PASCAL
- 72. ST. VIATOR
- 73. NORTHSIDE CATHOLIC ACADEMY
- 74. ST. ROBERT BELLARMINI
- 75. ST. MARGARET MARY

BIG SHOULDERS FUND HIGH SCHOOLS

- 76. ST. BENEDICT HIGH SCHOOL
- 77. GORDON TECH HIGH SCHOOL
- 78. NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS
- 79. JOSEPHINUM ACADEMY
- 80. HOLY TRINITY HIGH SCHOOL
- 81. CHRIST THE KING COLLEGE PREP
- 82. OUR LADY OF TEPEYAC HIGH SCHOOL
- 83. CRISTO REY JESUIT HIGH SCHOOL
- 84. DE LASALLE – LOURDES CAMPUS
- 85. DE LASALLE – INSTITUTE CAMPUS
- 86. HALES FRANCISCAN HIGH SCHOOL
- 87. MOUNT CARMEL HIGH SCHOOL
- 88. ST. RITA OF CASCIA HIGH SCHOOL
- 89. LEO HIGH SCHOOL
- 90. ST. FRANCIS DE SALES HIGH SCHOOL





25th Anniversary Celebration

The Big Shoulders Fund celebrated its 25th anniversary on Thursday, May 24, 2012, with a special silver anniversary dinner at the Chicago Hilton, honoring Founders (first row, L–R) Lester Crown, Ronald J. Gidwitz, Sr. Mary Brian Costello RSM, James Compton, Andrew J. McKenna Sr., (second row, L–R) James J. O'Connor, Arthur R. Velasquez, Michael R. Leyden (standing in for Barry Sullivan), Ed Stephan Jr. (standing in for Ed Stephan Sr.), and William A. McIntosh. The event welcomed 1,000 distinguished guests and raised \$6.25 million, making it the most successful nonprofit fundraising event in Chicago history. Many thanks to the Dinner Committee for making it a night to remember.

Big Shoulders Fund Moves to New Offices

In March 2012, the Big Shoulders Fund staff relocated to a new office space at 212 W. Van Buren Street. This move, which brought our staff to a larger, more cost-effective space, would not have been possible without the generous help of many Big Shoulders friends and supporters. As our broker, Craig Braham from Advocate Commercial Real Estate Advisors arranged almost all the donations to outfit our offices; as a board member, he generously donated back the fee his company received for negotiating the lease. Ann Mendelsohn of MACE donated her time and skills as a project manager, and Skender Construction provided general contractor services, coordinating the logistics of our relocation. Vortex Commerical Flooring, Marke Plumbing, and Paul Michaelsen at MECO Electric Co. ensured the new space was functional and ready for occupancy in a timely manner. Teknion LLC donated all our office furniture, ISI managed furniture installation, and Henry Horn of Horn Design contributed the interior architectural design, which Kayla Austen managed. Joyce Brothers handled our moving, making the process speedy and efficient. To all the people and groups that made this transition smooth and successful, we offer our sincerest gratitude!





→ **Lend a Shoulder Day**

Every fall, Big Shoulders Fund supporters head back to school for a chance to interact with students and witness the power of education in inner-city Catholic schools when they invest in a child. Participants, including Kristina Kelleher, (left, with a St. Ethelreda student), saw firsthand how STEM education is making an impact in the schools. The next opportunity to see how an investment in education is making a difference is at the 15th Annual Lend a Shoulder Day on November 12, 2014.



→ **Golf Classic**

The 2012 and 2013 Golf Classic had sellout crowds, together raising more than \$1 million for scholarships. Among those golfing were (R-L) President and Chief Executive Officer Josh Hale, Co-Chairman John Canning, Big Shoulders supporter David Herro, Chairmen's Advisory Council Vice Chairman John Podjasek, Board Director Farhan Yasin, and Auxiliary Board member John Kelly. Big Shoulders sends special thanks to event Co-Chairmen Bill Lagoni and Giancarlo Turano and the committee for their continued leadership and hard work to make the Golf Classic a success.

Big Shoulders Fund Around Town

The Auxiliary Board's Sixth Annual Big Shoulders Fund Ball, held September 28, 2012 at the Adler Planetarium, was a huge success, with more than 700 guests attending. The event welcomed a wide range of supporters, from Co-Chairman John Canning (third from L) to President and Chief Executive Officer Josh Hale (R) to Auxiliary Board leadership: (L-R) former Presidents Alice Keating and Mark Kirchner and Treasurer Brett Huelat, along with Big Shoulders Fund school teacher, reigning Miss Illinois and Auxiliary Board member Nancy To. The Seventh Annual Ball took place September 27, 2013 at the Chicago Illuminating Company and raised nearly \$75,000 for scholarships.



← **Big Shoulders Fund Ball**

Our Lady of Grace was the 2011-12 recipient of the Croghan Teacher's Award in recognition of the exceptional faculty and staff, headed by Principal Sr. Rita Marie Range O.P. (right, with students), who showed an increase in student achievement as measured by standardized test results. In 2012-13, teachers at St. Malachy were recognized with the Croghan Award.



← **Croghan Award**

Led by the Auxiliary Board School Committee, volunteers at the bimonthly Saturday morning Give Back Days beautified 17 schools during the past two years by painting, cleaning, organizing, and landscaping. This army of volunteers averaged between 150 and 200 people, who provided more than 6,000 hours of service and made an impact on the daily lives of countless children.



← **Give Back Days**



→ **Bowl for Big Shoulders**

The Auxiliary Board, in conjunction with 10pin bowling lounge, hosted the Fifth Annual Bowl for Big Shoulders to a sold-out crowd of more than 200, including corporate groups. Auxiliary Board members Dan Frailey and Catherine Ketter co-chaired the event, and Frailey hosted his Groupon team on two lanes. The evening helped raise more than \$17,000 for the Auxiliary Board Scholarship Fund. The Sixth Annual Bowl for Big Shoulders continued this success, raising \$20,000 under the leadership of Co-Chairs John Huber and Jen Manfredo.



→ **Corporate Service Days**

Chicago companies know there's more to being a good corporate citizen than generous financial contributions; it takes getting your employees involved in the community, and that is just what Careerbuilder.com, Deloitte, Ernst & Young, GATX, Goldman Sachs, PNC Bank, The PrivateBank, and Salesforce.com did. These and many other corporations rounded up their employees and participated in Big Shoulders' Corporate Service Day Program, which provides turnkey teambuilding opportunities for firms to make a difference in a school.



→ **Stock Market**

The Stock Market Program introduces eighth grade students to basic concepts related to the stock market, investing, and business with sessions led by professionals in the field. The program includes a fun year-end trip to see the markets in action at the Chicago Board of Trade and find out how banks work at the Federal Reserve. Charlie Bobrinskoy, vice chairman of Ariel Capital, and Citadel's Jim Hoeg began this program with just three schools in 2007, and it has since expanded to 34 schools.

Big Shoulders Fund thanked supporters with a night of Chicago Cubs baseball at the Wrigley Rooftops (wrigleyrooftops.com) hosted by Tom Gramatis and Paul Bach. Enjoying the game were Big Shoulders Fund Co-Chairman John A. Canning, Jr. (second from R) and Big Shoulders supporters (L-R) Sharon Kulak, Board Director Richard Strup, his wife Cindy, and Mike Canning.



← **Wrigley Rooftops**

Individuals giving their time to mentor students throughout the year are having a major effect on the lives of those young people. During the summer, the Auxiliary Board Schools Committee, led by Nick Koshiw and Emily Theis, coordinated a Shadow Day to bring together nearly 30 scholars and mentors to learn about potential career options. The group toured Belvedere Trading and Chicago Title Insurance Company in 2012 and Morningstar and United Airlines in 2013. Big Shoulders thanks Marc Cervantes, Peter Dietrich, Bridget Freas, and Brett Huelat for helping coordinate this event.



← **Shadow Day**

Each December, Big Shoulders Fund choirs spread holiday cheer and thank Chicagoans by caroling during the morning and evening commute at the Millennium and Ogilvie train stations.



← **Caroling**

Help Make a Difference.

For more than 25 years, Big Shoulders Fund has undertaken the responsibility of helping Chicago's inner-city children achieve their dreams through access to a quality, values-based education. However, we need your help to make this possible. There are many ways to continue to make a difference, and we hope you will get involved.

Donate. Make a gift individually, as a family, or through your company.

Participate. Attend Big Shoulders' annual Lend a Shoulder Day to get a glimpse of what happens at the schools through visiting, attending classes, and networking.

Mentor. Mentors work directly with students and are placed whenever possible in the school of their choice or, if the mentor is able, where the need is greatest. If you are interested in learning more about mentoring opportunities, please contact Michaela Metzger, Director of Data Management and Strategic Communication, at 312.544.8680 or mmetzger@bigshouldersfund.org.

Build. Join or create a school board. Schools need professionals who are interested in contributing time and talent in marketing, accounting, fundraising, capital improvements, construction, and technology. Individuals on these boards are working to build a sustainable, vital future for Catholic schools in Chicago. If you are interested in learning more about joining a School Board, please contact John Moran, Senior Director, Patrons Program, at 312.751.3807 or jmoran@bigshouldersfund.org.

Serve. Attend or sponsor a Big Shoulders Fund Service Day or volunteer as a tutor or coach. Volunteers at Service Days help schools paint, clean, organize, and accomplish large-scale projects. Schools are often looking for tutors and coaches, and this is a rewarding way to give the gift of time. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Amelia Drozda, Director of Events and Service, at 312.751.3850 or adrozda@bigshouldersfund.org.

Fundraise. Plan the annual Big Shoulders Fund Golf Classic, which raises essential scholarship funds to enable children to attend inner-city Catholic schools. We are always seeking new members for the Golf Classic committee. Dedicated volunteers from the civic and business communities plan the event and solicit sponsors, auction items, donations, and foursomes. For more information, to golf, or to join the committee, please contact Amelia Drozda, Director of Events and Service, at 312.751.3850 or adrozda@bigshouldersfund.org.

Join. Participate in the Auxiliary Board or Chairmen's Advisory Council, which engage active and altruistic professionals. Members can serve on committees such as fundraising, outreach, schools, scholarship, and more. Through these committees, members help plan fundraisers, volunteer with Big Shoulders schools and children, work to increase the visibility of Big Shoulders Fund and its Auxiliary Board and Chairmen's Advisory Council, and recruit new members. For more information or to join, please contact Jaime Guzman, Senior Director of Outreach, at 312.751.3896 or jguzman@bigshouldersfund.org.

Ways to Give.

No matter what size, every contribution is important. Your gift strengthens Chicago's inner-city Catholic schools through scholarships, special education programs, instructional equipment, school facility improvements, faculty support, operating grants, and much more.

Big Shoulders Fund is unique in that administrative expenses are supported by an endowment and other income, which ensures 100 percent of funds currently raised go toward programs that benefit the Big Shoulders Fund schools and the students they serve. These schools are beacons of hope for generations of children and families of diverse ethnic, racial, and religious backgrounds.

There are many ways to make a tax-deductible gift to support Big Shoulders Fund:

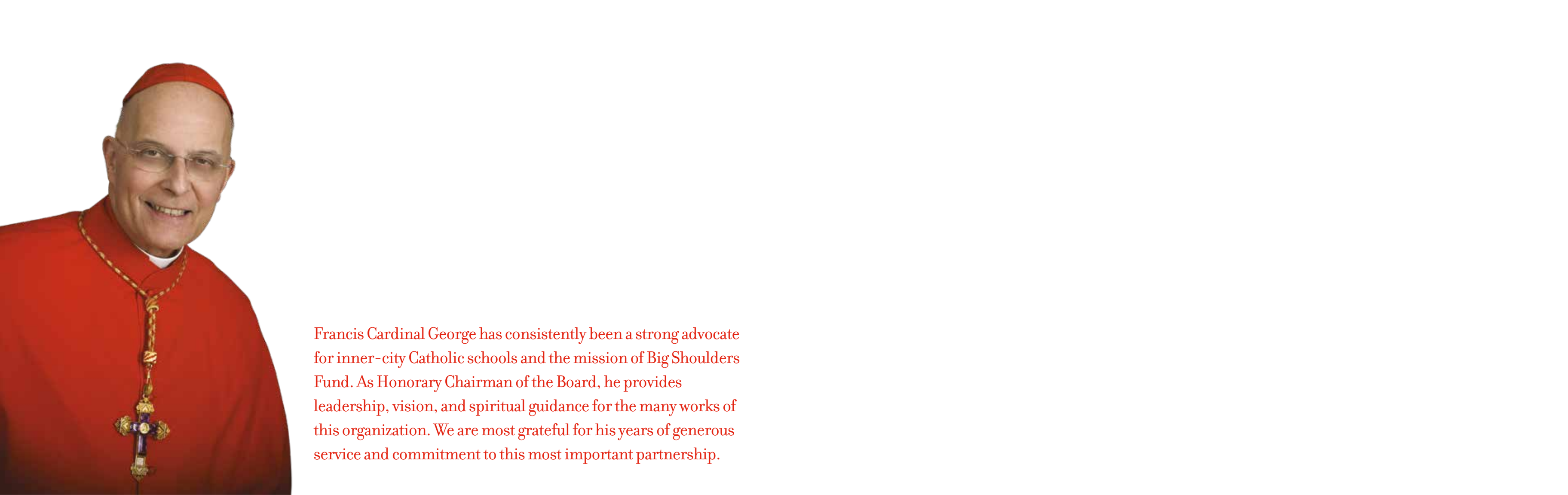
Cash Gifts. Make checks payable to Big Shoulders Fund and mail to Big Shoulders Fund, 212 W. Van Buren St., Suite 900, Chicago, IL 60607. Make a secure online donation with any major credit card at bigshouldersfund.org. Make a gift using any major credit card by calling 312.751.8337.

Matching Gifts. Contact the Human Resources Department at your company to determine if your employer will match your gift to Big Shoulders to increase its impact. More than 22,000 companies offer matching gifts to their employees through matching gift programs. Typically, a donor must initiate the matching gift by submitting his/her employer's matching gift form with the donation.

Planned Gifts. Make a planned gift arrangement or bequest, which entitles you to become a member of The Joseph Society. This group comprises friends who have made a special commitment, through a planned gift arrangement, to children attending Catholic schools in the neediest areas of inner-city Chicago. If you are interested in learning more about planned giving, please contact Rebecca Lindsay-Ryan, Senior Director of Academic Programs and External Affairs, at 312.751.3851 or rlindsayryan@bigshouldersfund.org.

Gifts of Securities. Make a gift of securities (stock) by having your broker contact Big Shoulders to transfer the shares. For further information or to make your gift of securities, please contact Linda Rossi, Chief Financial Officer, at 312.751.5294 or lrossi@bigshouldersfund.org.

Pledges. Make a multi-year pledge to Big Shoulders Fund to support the Patrons Program, scholarship assistance, capital projects, or the area of greatest need. For more information on how your multi-year pledge can make a difference, please contact Joshua Hale, President and Chief Executive Officer, at 312.751.5395 or jhale@bigshouldersfund.org.



Francis Cardinal George has consistently been a strong advocate for inner-city Catholic schools and the mission of Big Shoulders Fund. As Honorary Chairman of the Board, he provides leadership, vision, and spiritual guidance for the many works of this organization. We are most grateful for his years of generous service and commitment to this most important partnership.

Big Shoulders Fund Team

Joshua Hale	President and Chief Executive Officer	312.751.5395
Lindsay Abbassian	Assistant Director, Corporate and Foundation Relations	312.751.8693
Araceli Arroyo	Development Assistant	312.751.8337
Amelia Drozda	Director, Events and Service	312.751.3850
Bridget Gilloon	Assistant Director, Scholarship Programs	312.751.8692
Jaime Guzman	Senior Director, Outreach	312.751.3896
Sara Lanser	Director, Patrons Program and School Advancement	312.544.8684
Rebecca Lindsay-Ryan	Senior Director, Academic Programs and External Affairs	312.751.3851
Tammy LoVerde	Accountant	312.751.8394
Michaela Metzger	Director, Data Management and Strategic Communication	312.544.8680
John Moran	Senior Director, Patrons Program	312.751.3897
Juli Rossi	Associate Director, Donor Administration and Social Media Maven	312.751.3895
Linda Rossi	Chief Financial Officer	312.751.5294
Colleen Sprague	Assistant Director, Next Generation	312.544.8691
Natalie Sullivan	Development Assistant	312.751.3898
Thomas Zbierski	Senior Director, Scholarship Programs and School Relations	312.751.8365

In Memoriam

The Big Shoulders Fund remembers the following supporters who passed away during the past two years for their generosity and leadership.

Ernest Barany	Mandell E. de Windt	Richard Nash
Fr. Patrick J. Brennan, STL	Isabel L. Gallagher	Mary Kay O’Rourke
Roland Boertitz	James A. Gallagher	Barbara P. O’Toole
Darius Brown	Robert W. Galvin	Peer Pedersen
David G. Budinger	Rev. Andrew M. Greeley	Jesus Ruiz
George Cotsirilos	Robert J. Kuhn	Ann J. Smilanic
Philip Corboy	William McKay	Richard J. Smith
James A. Davlin	The Hon. Mary Ann G. McMorrow	David B. Speer
James C. Dowdle	Susan Walsh Miller	Fred L. Turner



Big Shoulders Fund

212 West Van Buren Street, Suite 900

Chicago, Illinois 60607

T. 312.751.8337 | F. 312.751.5235

info@bigshouldersfund.org

bigshouldersfund.org

The Big Shoulders Fund is an independent 501 (c) 3 charitable tax-exempt entity.

Annual Report

Editor/Writer: Jill Chukerman, JAC Communications

Contributing Writers: Meg McSherry Breslin, Jim Dyer

Designer: Mark Masseur, Symmetri Marketing Group

Photographers: Tom Balla, Craig Andrews, Michael Flack, Pictureboy Creative