

CHILDREN OF THE CITY

CHANGING THE CULTURE OF POVERTY THROUGH EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

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Changing the World Together

*"I alone cannot
change the world,
but I can cast a
stone across the
waters to create
many ripples."*
— Mother Teresa



Children of the City Goes Green

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Celebrities and guests alike came out in support of Children of the City at the 2011 Benefit Gala. Set against the stunning views of the Hudson River and the twilit Manhattan skyline, The Lighthouse at Chelsea Piers was a spectacular venue for guests gathered to raise funds and promote awareness of the educational needs and social challenges of at-risk children and families in Brooklyn.

The evening featured a live and silent auction as well as music, dancing and an exquisite dinner prepared by renowned chef Abigail Kirsch. In addition to our gracious host and master of ceremonies Kristine Johnson (*WCBS anchor*), celebrities in attendance included Anthony Mackie (*The Hurt Locker*), Selita Ebanks (*Victoria Secret Model and Actress*), Dylan Walsh (*Nip/Tuck*), Dr. Ruth Westheimer (*renowned therapist*), Holt McCallany (*Three Kings*), Bryan Batt (*Mad Men*) and Miss New York Kaitlin Monte. COC Board Member Vickie Del Toro received the Children's Champion Award for her extraordinary work with underprivileged children in the community.

This year's celebration included the monumental recognition of 30 years dedicated to serving disadvantaged and neglected children by COC.



We were thrilled to have this opportunity to invite New Yorkers to partner with us and address the challenges these children have to face. The Gala was a great success, and everyone who attended had a wonderful evening. With the backing and efforts of our supporters, we are able to continue to battle the poverty and educational failure prevalent in our communities.

COLLEGE BOUND & SAT PROGRAM



Children of the City successfully launched its College Bound Program this past year, helping many juniors and seniors in high school achieve outstanding academic goals.

Obstacles facing high school students include sub-optimal educational environments, self-esteem issues, and negative peer pressure. It is our goal to eradicate these obstacles and help students reach their full academic potential.

“My SAT scores went from 1200 on practices tests to 1600 on my actual test!”

-Ronora, student



The 8-month prep-course is priced at nearly \$1,300 per student, but for the second year in a row Kaplan SAT Prep Classes will be provided at no charge to high school juniors whose families do not have the financial means to pay for these services.

The results of their SAT scores play a large role in determining college acceptance. Our goal is to ensure each student has the opportunity to pursue a college degree.

“It’s great to see that these students have attained such large score increases from the daignostic exam - between 200 and 380 points increase!”

-Brianna, NY Cares



CREATE SUCCESS!



The Create Success Summer Program concluded on August 19th, and the results were once again tremendous. We are the only summer program in this community that offers a strong educational focus. The program addresses the lack of crucial

foundational skills that affect children from underserved communities with related math and literacy weakness. Our program meets the general needs of each age group in addition to offering individualized tutoring.

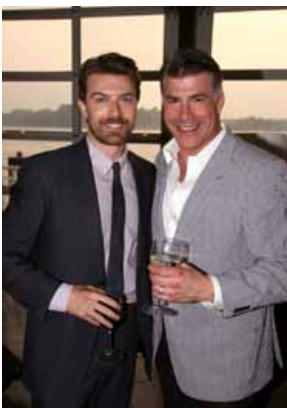
During exit interviews with tutors, most students expressed that they were more comfortable reading and felt more confident going back to school. More than half the students in several class increased one whole reading level, placing them in the above-average

reading comprehension group for their upcoming grade levels. In other words, many of the students leaving the program this summer are significantly ahead of the curve for this September. That’s creating a success!



2011 BENEFIT GALA

On Wednesday July 20th, 2011, numerous celebrities joined guests at The Lighthouse at Chelsea Piers for our 2011 Benefit Gala. It was an engaging, fun-filled evening that showcased the exceptional work being done by COC in Brooklyn communities and acknowledged the gracious support we rely on to help those in need. We are extraordinarily grateful to our friends and guests for their generosity. This support enables us to continue our mission of providing programs and services to disadvantaged children and families.



COC SUCCESS STORY

At first, Angel R. was a particularly difficult student to work with. He had trouble communicating and became easily frustrated. His tutors knew this 6-year-old was a bright student, but heart-breakingly, Angel believed otherwise. His lack of faith in his academic abilities caused him to break down in tears when trying to read or do math. A few weeks into the program, however, he started to let his guard down and trust his tutor.

Once this trust was established, his self-esteem noticeably improved and he started to believe in himself. He was diligent and strove to become an outstanding student. Angel's

growth was rooted in having someone believe in him—Children of the City opened that door for him. As a result of his new-found confidence, Angel went up one full reading level and an astonishing two levels in mathematics.



Angel's story perfectly illustrates the importance of our program—had COC not reached out to him, he might

never have grown out of the crippling self-doubt that was preventing his academic success.

It is critical for every child to be a part of an educational program that believes in them. COC provides this support, and gives children the tools they need to overcome obstacles of all kinds to reach their goals.

We believe in Angel, and he is well on his way to accomplishing great things! At Children of the City, we strive alongside every student to help them succeed.



OUR MISSION

Our mission is to reach at-risk inner city children and youth with hope, guidance and resources to positively affect their lives, and break the cycle of poverty.

Upcoming Events

Since 1981, Children of the City has mobilized individuals and volunteers to meet the needs of less fortunate families and children through educational support, Thanksgiving dinners, Christmas gifts, school supplies, food distribution, advocacy and much more. Our volunteer teams visit close to 1,000 children each month in their homes. From October through June, **Future Safe** will hold monthly parenting workshops and reading assistance for families and their children.

November 20th, 2011 - We will be hosting our Annual Thanksgiving Dinner Distribution. Families will receive a full Thanksgiving meal (a 25-lb box of food to feed a family of six). More than one in five children in New York City live in poverty and close to 40% of the families we serve live below the poverty line.

December 17th, 2011 - We invite families to a special Christmas Gift give-away event. During the months of November and December we collect new and unwrapped toys to distribute to needy children in the communities we serve.

Our generous supporters enable us to offer these critical services, positively impacting countless families and providing them with the tools and hope for success.

We invite you to join us as we work to meet the needs of these extraordinary children and families. For more information about volunteering or donating, visit us at www.childrenofthecity.org or call (718) 436-0242, ext. 18. Thank you for your much-needed support!