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Fulcrum's Mission

The Fulcrum Foundation provides financial assistance to promote and leverage support for Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Seattle.



Ladies of the Latina mother's group and pastor, Fr. Hans Olson, at St. Mary Magdalen School, Everett

Accessibility and Intercultural Competency: Helping Schools Build Diverse and Inclusive Communities

In spring 2015, Fulcrum awarded grants to 11 schools through the Building Inclusion and Diversity Grant Program, encouraging them to respect, celebrate and include the culture of each student as an integral part of a Catholic education. Over the past year, schools have used these funds to increase ethnic diversity, develop cultural competency and enhance academic excellence in their schools.

The grants work in tandem with dedicated efforts at the school level. Prior to receiving a grant through this program, St. Mary Magdalen School was already focused on Latino family outreach in their community, aligning with goals set forth in the strategic plan of the

Office for Catholic Schools. They made a significant investment in creating a welcoming atmosphere by translating admission materials into Spanish, hiring more bilingual faculty and staff, and offering tuition assistance to new Latino families. After they applied for and were awarded a Building Diversity and Inclusion Grant, they were in a position to expand their reach and enhance their efforts. Grant funds were used for cultural competency training for all staff, assessment tools and materials for English Language Learners, a teacher/parent communication workshop and Latino parent workshops and programs.

Kristin Moore, the school's Development Director, reports great success: In two years, Latino enrollment is up from just 15 students in 2013 to 56 students, with a total enrollment of 408 students this school year. Kristin works very closely with Dr. Julieta Crosby, the Office for Catholic Schools' Director

of Latino and Hispanic Enrollment. Through teamwork, they cultivated a strong Latino parent group that is proving to increase the involvement of many new families in this thriving school and in parish life as well.

Mid-year, members of Fulcrum's Diversity Committee visited St. Mary Magdalen School and witnessed first-hand the impact of their efforts. They saw multiple classes use "Raz-Kids", a comprehensive, leveled, online reading resource that was partially funded by the Fulcrum Building Diversity and Inclusion Grant. This resource has proven to be particularly useful there, as many students are learning English as a second language.

The committee also had the pleasure of spending time with the Latina Mom's Group. With Kristin as their lead, the group meets regularly at the school for a variety of activities and learning opportunities. Fulcrum's grant purchased several Rosetta Stone

licenses that the women use to improve their English language skills. By using laptops, cell phones and tablets at the school to complete their lessons, Kristin can view their progress online. Additionally, Kristin arranges a monthly speaker or activity for the group (one month, a local expert spoke to the group about breast cancer awareness.) Additionally, many in the group have completed Parent Ambassador Training with Julieta. After this training, they are well-equipped to connect with and help new families make a smooth transition into the school. They also represent the school in the community, all of which helps the school grow its enrollment and strengthen the broader community. The members of the Latina Mom's Group expressed their sincere gratitude for Fulcrum's support and graciously provided a home-cooked lunch for the committee during the visit, complete with a very impressive Our Lady of Guadalupe Jell-O dessert!

With outcomes like those seen at St. Mary Magdalen School, Fulcrum eagerly looks forward to partnering with many other schools throughout the Archdiocese in support of their efforts to increase ethnic diversity, improve cultural competency and enhance academic excellence in their schools through the Building Diversity and Inclusion Grant Program.



Left: members of the Latina mother's group using Rosetta Stone on the computer, smartphone and tablet. Right: a Jell-O masterpiece

Our New Website

We are so very excited to share with you that our new website is now complete and live—this new tool will help us to share Fulcrum's vision and inspiring mission in new, compelling, and innovative ways.

The web address is the same, but the entire site has been redesigned to focus on the impact of our mission and to highlight our strong partnerships, and the positive impact of those relationships in the lives of children and families, for Catholic schools, and the greater community.

www.fulcrumfoundation.org

We are also expanding into new social media channels, so please be sure to link, like, and share with us through the icons located at the bottom of the new website. Here is a preview of where you'll be able to find us online:



facebook.com/fulcrumfoundation



@fulcrumfoundation



linkedin.com/company/fulcrum-foundation



youtube.com/user/fulcrumfoundation



@Fulcrum_Seattle

Amici Spruces Up St. Matthew School

Amici was proud to accomplish many things this year for their partner school, St. Matthew. The school requested assistance in improving their Extended School Service (ESS) space which is also used for art classes, tutoring, weekend meetings and summer activities.

Amici members gathered for eight events over the course of the school year to raise funds for this project. Some events, such as the kick-off social at Kell's Irish Pub and the Gonzaga basketball gamewatch, sought to build community and share fellowship with other young professionals who also want to support Catholic education. Other

events combined fundraising with "just plain fun", like Trivia Night and Amici's first Kickball Tournament.

Donations raised from these events enabled the purchase of many new items from the St. Matthew ESS wishlist, including a new sofa and a play kitchen set.

Three service events subsequently took place on St. Matthew school grounds where Amici cleaned, assembled new furniture, and applied fresh coats of paint to the ESS portable's interior. They even extended a hand in painting the trim throughout the hallway of the main building.

It has been a great blessing to members of Amici to experience the joy and gratitude expressed by the whole St. Matthew community throughout

this year. Amici hopes to carry that inspiration with them into the next year of service at a new partner school.

In closing, Fulcrum would like to thank Katie Baldwin for her leadership and service as Amici Chair these past two years! We welcome David Redenbaugh, the new chair for Fulcrum's young professional group. Stay tuned for more on David in our next newsletter.



Fulcrum Foundation's

Chairman's Circle Dinner

The Chairman's Circle is comprised of donors who give significant support to the Fulcrum Foundation each year. On May 26th, this group of donors was recognized and celebrated at the annual appreciation dinner. Held at the beautiful Willows Lodge in Woodinville this year, guests enjoyed a garden tour, wine tasting in the gazebo and entertainment by the Kennedy Catholic High School String Quartet.

Those who attended were inspired by Mike Prato, Kennedy Catholic President, who spoke on the importance of the partnership between faith formation and funding: "God places dreams in the form of passions and if you follow your passion you will do amazing things. Fulcrum has allowed me to realize the bottom line is just an invitation to build stronger partnerships."

The evening concluded on a poignant note with Executive Director Anthony Holter holding in his hands a letter, and reading aloud the heartfelt words of gratitude from a tuition assistance grant recipient given the opportunity to attend a Catholic high school. The student wrote: "... I would like to use this card as my written pledge to give back to others when I can, like what was given to me."



Announcing Fulcrum's Advancement Director



We are excited to welcome Conne McGlynn Bruce to the Fulcrum team as our Advancement Director. Conne most recently served as Planned Giving Director at Holy Names Academy, and brings a wealth of advancement experience, her warm personality, and deep commitment to Catholic education that will propel Fulcrum forward in new and exciting ways. Conne and her husband Brian are both products of local Catholic schools, and their children, Roisin (senior, Holy Names Academy), Charlie (junior, O'Dea), and Rogan (7th grade, St. Louise) continue that important family legacy of Catholic education.

Conne is looking forward to meeting and connecting with members of the Fulcrum family over the next several months. Feel free to contact her at conne.bruce@fulcrumfoundation.org or by phone at 206.748.7989 (office) and 425.922.0010 (mobile).

Fulcrum's Celebration of Light in the Top 25

The Fulcrum Foundation Celebration of Light Gala was ranked 25th in funds raised in a regional Benefit Event by the Puget Sound Business Journal. PSBJ's annual Benefits Events list ordered nonprofit events according to the amount raised in 2015. This list is published each year as part of the PSBJ's comprehensive Book of Lists.

Fulcrum is proud to be listed again among the Northwest's most prominent nonprofit organizations. Thank you to all of the Celebration of Light supporters, including our business partners, who make it possible for Fulcrum to expand the excellence and accessibility of Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Seattle.

"You have provided my family with tuition money to help lighten the load and ease the sacrifice my father makes to send me to Kennedy." —Edom, Kennedy Catholic HS

Celebration of Light

"I truly am grateful for your donation because it is giving me an opportunity to have an education that no one in my family has ever had. Thank you for helping my family and me."

—Lane, All Saints Catholic School

"...Without this financial support my dream of my children receiving a Catholic education may not come true. My son has had a wonderful experience learning about his faith and the world around him."

"I am so grateful that somebody wants

"Thank you for helping my parents. Catholic education is very important to my family, but my parents would not be able to keep me in a Catholic school without your financial help. I like my school because everybody is friendly, kind and caring."

—Millicent, St. Frances Cabrini School

"I am an eight who will be glad that I was tell you my than

Above: a portion of the wall art displayed at this year's Celebration of Light, showing excerpts of thank you notes written by students and families who received Fulcrum tuition grants.