

Board of Directors

On behalf of the children we serve and our entire organization, we thank our board directors and officers for their commitment and hard work. A special thanks goes to **Julie Krey**, who has served passionately for six years. Julie is now stepping down and we will miss her very much.

As a Manpower representative, Julie visited *Our Next Generation* in early 2006. She observed our programming in action, spoke with some of our children, and listened to a youth poetry presentation. Not long after, she made a commitment to get involved and help the organization. And did she get involved!

Julie joined the Board and was soon elected Board Treasurer. She prepared monthly financial statements and oversaw the annual audit. When Julie observed the need for a corporate investment policy, she authored a draft for Board approval, then formed and chaired the Investment Committee. Julie hosted and helped organize our annual meetings at Manpower, and provided tireless leadership as a member of the Executive Committee. Julie has also been a consistent and successful fundraiser for our organization.

We will always cherish Julie's involvement and accomplishments.

Serving as our new Board Treasurer is **Kathryn Bennett**, elected to the Board in early 2012. Kathryn has been a Managing Partner at Komisar Brady & Co. since 1997. She has financially supported and volunteered for a variety of causes, including COA, the Red Cross, Lynne Wilson Center for the Arts, and Safe & Sound. Kathryn's vision is for Milwaukee's youth to learn in safe environments and gain greater awareness of positive options for their futures, leading to improved graduation rates with more youth advancing to higher education.

We welcome Kathryn as our new Treasurer!



Julie Krey



Kathryn Bennett

Thank You



Froedtert Health executives gathered at our center to celebrate the acquisition of our new bus

New bus, new opportunities...

On October 11th, we were pleased to receive the donation of a bus to transport our children and youth to field trips and Outbound Learning sites. The bus procurement was underwritten in part by Froedtert Health and by the Elizabeth Elser Doolittle Charitable Trusts. We offer our deepest appreciation to both organizations for their support!

A bike rack for our center

We thank the Milwaukee Bike Federation for donating a bike rack that we installed at our center. For the last six years, the Federation has offered two-week summer workshops at *Our Next Generation*. Bikes are brought to the center for our youth to use as they learn about bicycle safety, maintenance and repair. After the safety program is completed, Federation volunteers guide participants through a variety of tours around Milwaukee. At the end of the workshop we help our youth obtain, through donations, their own bikes to use for transportation, exercise and fun.



Marcus Simmons was the first to use our new bike rack



3421 W Lisbon Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53208

Your financial support enables us to deliver programming to more underserved children. Our funding comes from those who believe in the effectiveness of our program: individuals, churches, foundations and businesses.

If you'd like to financially support *Our Next Generation*, please include your donation in the attached envelope, or make an online donation at www.ongkids.org.

Also, please consider a donation of time as a volunteer, with a commitment that fits your schedule.

As a volunteer or donor, you can directly help our youth reach their full potential. We deeply appreciate all contributions.

To get involved, schedule a visit, or for more information, please call President/CEO Bob Dunn at 414-344-2111.

Board of Directors

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Artist

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K12YOGA

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Treasurer:
Ms. Kathryn Bennett

Secretary:
Ms. Rebecca Simenz

Immediate Past Chair:
Mr. James S. Reeve III

President/CEO:
Mr. Robert Dunn

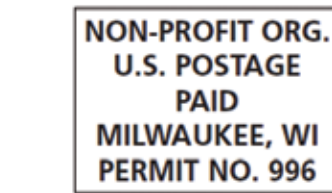
COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Ms. Susan Ball
*Director, Client
Development
Schenck SC*

Mr. Charles Drake
Community Volunteer

Mr. Gerald Mainman
Retired

Ms. Lisa Robbins
Johnson Direct, LLC



Our Next Generation warmed our hearts! We all left there wanting to return...all the conversations we had were so authentic and unrushed! I especially enjoyed chatting with Bob Dunn, learning more about the surrounding area and who the center attracts. I wish that I were Bill Gates, perhaps his wife, and could support Our Next Generation with millions. We will continue to invest in this very worthy and well run organization. Thank you for including us!

-Helen Conlon

EMAIL RECEIVED FOLLOWING
A VOLUNTEER-RUN EVENT

OUR News

OUR NEXT GENERATION, INC. NEWSLETTER - Winter 2012/2013

Programming

Outbound Learning Program honored as MANDI finalist

The MANDI Awards selected *Our Next Generation's* Outbound Learning Program as a finalist in the PNC Trail Blazer Award category honoring an innovative approach to a community problem.

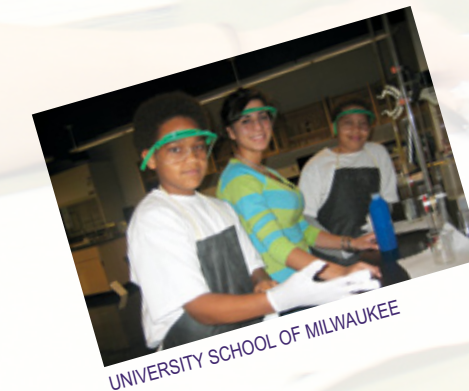
Sponsored by U.S. Bank, in partnership with LISC Milwaukee, the Milwaukee Awards for Neighborhood Development Innovation (MANDI) recognize the outstanding work of organizations striving to improve Milwaukee's neighborhoods. Winners in each category will be announced at an event at the Pfister Hotel on March 14th, 2013.

Our Outbound Learning Program provides an innovative solution to the problem of poverty by exposing youth to worlds they would otherwise never imagine. In 2003 we reached out to the larger community looking for Outbound Learning partners who would welcome our children to their sites each week. After school, volunteers at each site become one-on-one tutors and mentors, and our youth experience a caring and supportive environment and stimulating activities. Partner sites include University School of Milwaukee, ManpowerGroup, St. John's on the Lake Retirement Center, MSOE, and UWM. Froedtert Health will soon become an Outbound Learning partner.



MILWAUKEE SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

Our Outbound Learning sites provide a special environment, and our partner volunteers help our youth with homework, conduct literacy and math programs, explore careers, engage our youth in science and technology, and very importantly, help them connect with not only who they are, but who they can become.



UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MILWAUKEE



MANPOWER



SAINT JOHN'S ON THE LAKE



SAINT JOHN'S ON THE LAKE



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Helping Urban Youth Achieve Academic and Personal Excellence

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Technology that encourages learning

As low-income children lose interest in reading, learning gaps widen between them and higher-income students. Thanks to support from community members, we now have access to technology that helps engage our children in reading and learning.

Over a year ago, Microsoft's Julie Greiner volunteered to tutor at *Our Next Generation*. She then wondered how Microsoft might help our organization. Julie recruited co-worker Gregg Mattek, and they began a campaign to provide new computers and the latest software to enhance our students' learning experience.

On November 30th, 18 new computers were delivered and a team of Microsoft technicians assembled the hardware and installed Microsoft 8 and Office Pro on the computers to be used by our Homework Club students. Technicians from Independence First joined the Microsoft team during installation. Independence First will provide ongoing IT support for our organization.

Julie and Gregg orchestrated this year-long effort. They first secured the donation of software from Microsoft. Realizing that our computers were not able to support the new software, Julie and Gregg began a campaign to raise the funds needed to purchase new computers. Fellow Microsoft

This is not a one-time event, but rather the start of our partnership with Our Next Generation.

-Gregg Mattek



Microsoft volunteers and our staff celebrate the completion of hardware setup and software installation at our center.

employees responded generously to their appeal, and Microsoft Corporation matched their gifts.

We would like to thank Julie, Gregg, the Microsoft employees who responded to their fundraising appeal, and those who volunteered to install the equipment at our center.

Our partnership with Microsoft enabled us to obtain a grant from New York-based United Thank Offering to purchase 12 netbooks. With these netbooks our math students now have access to Salman Khan's online courses, which enable our tutors to teach at varying grade and proficiency levels.

In addition, MSOE and the Brady Corporation provided a grant to buy 12 Kindle Fire tablets featuring full web browsing to help our students with homework, and Immersion Reading to improve reading and comprehension.

Wish list...

We're looking for Kindles with *Immersion Reading Feature!*

The *Immersion Reading* feature on certain Kindle Fire tablets enables them to synchronize Kindle text with Audible audiobooks featuring real-time highlighting. This synchronization creates an immersive reading experience that deepens learning and comprehension. *Immersion Reading* comes exclusively on the newest generation of Kindle Fires, including Kindle Fire HD 7" and Kindle Fire HD 8.9".



Thanks to a generous grant from MSOE and the Brady Corporation, in 2012 we procured twelve Kindle Fire HD 7" tablets to support our literacy efforts. However, **to fully meet our needs we are seeking eight more tablets.**

If you are able to donate or underwrite a Kindle Fire, please contact Bob Dunn at 414-344-2111.

We would also be grateful for your contribution toward the purchase of audiobook licenses. With a \$20 Amazon gift card, we can download one book license to share with six children. The gift card can be emailed directly from Amazon to rdunn@ongkids.org.

Enhancing Learning through the Arts

Our Next Generation's Enhancing Learning through the Arts workshops have become an essential driver of our students' academic success. Established as a fun activity, our arts workshops have proven to be a powerful method for teaching our youth positive ways to express themselves and to find their unique voice and talents. This creative outlet also provides an effective coping mechanism against the stress and trauma of growing up in poverty.

Enhancing Learning through the Arts workshops include:

Literacy Comes Alive with Art.

At each session our coaches read to the younger children while older children read on their own. Students then engage in drawing, journaling, role-playing, and other individual and group activities, connecting the stories with their own experiences. Geared to our first through eighth graders, this program is dramatically improving their reading and comprehension skills. Our high school students also benefit, as they become tutors and mentors for the younger children struggling with reading.



Poetry for the Soul.

In this series of poetry workshops, students are encouraged by a local poet to journal, compose and perform. We provide students with video equipment to record rehearsals, which serve as feedback for improving performance skills. At the end of the workshop, participants perform for an audience of community members. In 2012 our workshops featured talented spoken-words artist Nikki Janzen as leader and mentor.



Ceramic Jazz. Through this ongoing workshop, our children experience the pleasure of quietly working with clay to create a design that expresses their inner selves, as they listen to soothing jazz at the studio of our dear artist and neighbor Muneer Bahauddeen. Children's creations are displayed throughout the community and at our year-end Showcase Performance.



Side Streets to Main Street.

Through hands-on-experience, students learn to tell their personal stories with multi-media. During the process they write songs and create beats and background music for their videos. Dedicated program leader Dave Olsen introduces students to digital technology, providing instruction on selecting camera angles and movements, establishing composition, editing, and adding music. Student creations are shared through Facebook and YouTube, and are presented at our community events and our year-end Showcase Performance.



Puppets for the Summer of Peace Parade.

On July 27, 2012, youth, families and community members from all parts of the city came together in Washington Park for the tenth annual *Summer of Peace All City Parade and Peace Rally*. This event, created by and for youth, showcases and celebrates their collective work dedicated to preventing violence. Professional artist Jeff Holub, artist-in-residence at Milwaukee Public Theatre, led our students through the process of making puppets for the event.



Our Next Generation's Enhancing Learning through the Arts programs are supported in part by a grant from the Wisconsin Arts Board with funds from the State of Wisconsin and the National Endowment for the Arts; by MPS Partnership for the Arts; and by the Greater Milwaukee Foundation's Mary L. Nohl Fund.



Appreciation Dinner

At our Appreciation Dinner on November 19th, more than 150 people including our children and their families filled the all-purpose room at our center as we celebrated the first semester highlights of the 2012-13 program year. Outside, board member Rich Dean and other volunteers unloaded a caravan of cars from St. Boniface Episcopal Church in Mequon, each car filled with boxes containing the makings of a Thanksgiving feast. Since the early 1990s, members of St. Boniface have generously provided Howard's Holiday Baskets, a traditional Thanksgiving dinner for the families of our Homework Club participants. These baskets are named after the late Howard Hinton, who started this tradition. At the end of the dinner, children and youth selected their favorite books, from a generous donation, to take home. We thank the many people and organizations who donated books throughout the year.



Line Dancing

As a community center, our doors are open to the entire community. On the first Thursday of each month, we host events for the adults involved in our children's lives. As they participate in healthy and fun activities, we take care of the children, who in turn have fun reading, playing, or working on crafts projects. Line Dancing, and event held on December 13th, was a crowd favorite and has now become a monthly feature.



Holiday Party and Washington Park Partners celebration

We also open our doors to our community partners. On December 19th, we hosted a holiday party for our children while their parents attended the Washington Park Partners' Quality-of-Life Plan Update & Celebration of Accomplishments. Building community is an important goal of *Our Next Generation* because we understand that a stronger community is a healthier one.

Staff

Our Newest Team Member: A Former Refugee Gives Back

Omar Mursal, the newest member of our team, is now a Program Leader and will serve as coordinator of our Outbound Learning Program at Froedtert Health, a partnership set to start March 1st.

Born in Somalia, Omar grew up at a refugee camp in Kenya, arriving in the U.S. as a refugee in 2004. Now an American citizen, Omar graduated in 2012 from Marquette University with a B.A. in Social Welfare and Justice.



In September, 2012, Deborah Crane, adjunct assistant professor and intern coordinator at Marquette, told Omar of our increasing involvement with African refugee families, and he committed to an internship helping them adjust to their new lives. Not only does Omar speak their language, he deeply understands their challenges. Omar explains:

My years in the U.S. have been a rocky course, but my family, friends and community have stood by me and softened the hardships. Now, I want to give back to my community. Becoming a member of Our Next Generation's family provides that opportunity.

Indeed, Omar has quickly become a dedicated mentor and leader at our organization, and we are blessed to have him.