Seeds Achieves

During FY16, Seeds received local, state, and national recognition. We are grateful that so many institutions and organizations recognized the hard work of our students, volunteers, and staff.

Dominion East Ohio’s Community Impact Award

The award acknowledges the important role nonprofits play in improving local communities, and recognized Seeds East’s impact in Mt. Pleasant and its surrounding neighborhoods.

African-American Philanthropy Tank Education Category Winner, Runner-Up Overall

Seeds was a finalist at the Shark Tank-style event sponsored by the African-American Philanthropy Committee of The Cleveland Foundation. Staff members pitched Seeds to a breakout session of over 100, then engaged in a Q&A with keynote speaker and BET personality Jeff Johnson to over 400 attendees.

Spreading the Word

Thanks to the following media and policymakers who were willing to listen, learn, and publish about the importance of adult literacy, Seeds, and our students.

Pacific Standard Magazine
Policy Matters Ohio
The Cleveland Plain Dealer
90.3 WCPN + Mike MacIntyre
WEWS Channel 5 + Leon Bibb

2016 Adult Learner of the Year

Governor Kasich’s Courage Award
Cleveland City Council Commendation

Margo Hudson, Seeds of Literacy Graduate & Tutor

This year, Margo blossomed into an active advocate for Seeds and the power of adult literacy. The Coalition on Adult Basic Education named her the 2016 Adult Learner of the Year, a national award given to a student who has overcome difficult circumstances to pursue adult learning, supported other adult learners, and demonstrated leadership within learning environments while managing adult responsibilities.

Governor Kasich presented her with the Courage Award, created to recognize extraordinary Ohioans. Margo received formal congratulations from Senators Brown and Portman, Representative Marcia Fudge, State Senator Sandra Williams, State Representative Nikki Antonio, as well as a commendation from Cleveland City Council.

Finally, Margo was invited to give the Pledge of Allegiance at the Wednesday session of the Republican National Convention.

Bonnie Entler and Margo Hudson
What a time it has been! Each year, we are fortunate to have a wide variety of help and support in order for our students to flourish. But this year brought an amazing amount of public recognition to our students, their accomplishments, and our program.

We improved our storytelling to let the rest of the world know what we know: that adult literacy is the changemaker that improves lives. We reconfigured our website to give us a platform from which to speak, and sent ripples into the community to raise awareness of adult literacy in Cleveland and Seeds. Our 66% Campaign launched our website and blog with a strong infographic, which continues to educate and inspire action. We upped our social media presence on Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter, and saw likes, connections, and followers increase exponentially.

And our students, tutors, volunteers, and staff provided incredible content to share.

As we told our story, others listened. We are so very grateful for the awards from Dominion East Ohio and the African-American Philanthropy Committee, and were absolutely astonished by the ongoing shower of recognition received by Seeds graduate and tutor, Margo Hudson. We are thankful that our story reached the ears of the media and policymakers, influencers who have come to understand the importance of adult education and who have the power to reach decision-makers and the wider public.

A seed wraps enormous power for change in a small package. Then, watch it grow! We can certainly say that we lived up to our name this past year, as we cultivated relationships and saw them take root.

If you haven’t connected with us online yet, please do. Read about the triumphs of students and tutors, the care and concern of donors and volunteers, and the undeniable everyday victories we all share. Then go and tell your world about ours.

With gratitude,

Bonnie Entler
George Miller
Executive Director
President, Board of Directors
MISSION:
Providing personalized education that empowers adults to succeed in their communities.


Who We Are

- 920 Students
  - 55% Women
  - 45% Men
  - 88% live at or below poverty level
  - 13% increase over last fiscal year

What We Achieved

- 512 attended over 12 hours of classes
- 439 increased at least 1 grade level in at least 1 subject
- 104 GED® test sections taken
- 91 Northstar Digital Literacy Certificates awarded
- 90 GED section tests passed
- 25 students passed all 4 GED sections

Who Helped

- 247 Active Volunteer Tutors
  - Spending 12,196 hours of volunteer tutoring
- 8,500 Hours other volunteers spent on housekeeping, administrative, clerical, accounting, fundraising, marketing, and program support tasks
- 11 staff members (9 full time, 2 part time)
- 370 financial donors
- 244 in-kind event donors
- 52 everyday in-kind donors

How We Did It

REVENUE

- 8% Grants, Gifts, & Contributions
- 64% Educational Assistance
- 28% Special Events
- 8% Donated Services

EXPENSES

- 8% Grants, Gifts, & Contributions
- 12% Educational Assistance
- 8% Special Events
- 28% Donated Services
- 64% Management

For a detailed financial report, contact Bonnie Entler, Executive Director, at 216.661.7950 or bonnieentler@seedsofliteracy.org
Heartfelt Thanks to Those Supporting Seeds of Literacy

**Honor Society ($1,000.00 to $200,000.00)**
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