



Summit
Education
Initiative

SUMMIT EDUCATION INITIATIVE



...articulates educational challenges

...facilitates collaborations

...develops prototype programs.



SUMMIT EDUCATION INITIATIVE

OUR VISION

We envision a future in which education is Summit County's highest priority. Reflecting that priority, all sectors of the community engage in coordinated efforts to:

- Encourage children at every stage in their development to pursue further education and
- Eliminate obstacles that prevent children from achieving ambitious educational goals.

Fortified by this support, ever-increasing numbers of Summit County children graduate from high school well-prepared for higher education and earn degrees from post-secondary educational programs, making Summit County the most educated community in Ohio and attracting to the county thousands of highly skilled and well-paid jobs.

OUR MISSION

The mission of Summit Education Initiative is to forge strategic alliances among education, business, civic and community leaders that increase the educational aspirations and achievement of all Summit County children.

SEI'S ROLE

To help Summit County realize this vision and act on its mission, Summit Education Initiative:

- Articulates the major educational challenges facing the county and tracks the progress being made in addressing those challenges by conducting research and publicizing relevant data and findings,
- Encourages and facilitates collaborations designed to address those educational challenges and
- Develops prototype programs that test and refine strategies for removing barriers to high educational aspiration and achievement.

PAVING THE WAY FOR THE NEW GENERATION OF LEARNERS



KIRSTIN TOTH
SEI Board Chair

Never has there been a more important time in our community to pave the way for the newest generation of learners. In this time of economic uncertainty and system-wide challenges in education, the work of SEI and our partners is critical.

Our mission, "to forge strategic alliances among education, business, civic and community leaders that increase the educational aspirations and achievement of all Summit County children," is a constant reminder that so many conversations and actions have to happen in order for us to succeed in improving the educational system in our community.

Your part as a volunteer, donor, supporter or partner is critical to SEI's work as convener and facilitator for the change in education that is here. 21st century learning and working skills are necessary to the growth of our local and global economy, but just as important is the ability for our children to critically assess their world and understand how they can make a difference in their own lives and in the lives of their fellow citizens.

SEI is here to help with model programs developed by the best and brightest leaders in our community. These programs include Destination College, Learning 24/7, the P-16 Alliance, SPARK (Supporting Partnerships to Assure Ready Kids) and Summit Scholars.

With the new program year ahead, SEI will undoubtedly change and become more attuned to the community's needs and goals, and we welcome — and *need* — your active participation. We look forward to continuing to provide the place for your voice to help improve our children's future.

Thank you for your steadfast support and ongoing commitment to SEI.

Strategic Alliances Are Building Educational Opportunity



DR. SUSAN LONG
*Interim Executive Director
Summit Education Initiative*

“ I THANK THOSE WHO HAVE GIVEN THEIR TIME, TALENT AND DOLLARS TO SUPPORT OUR ENDEAVORS, AND I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH THOSE WE HOPE WILL JOIN US THIS YEAR IN BUILDING EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR YOUNG PEOPLE. ”

EDUCATION MATTERS!

All students need challenging, profoundly engaging and authentic educational experiences that produce lifelong learning. SEI advocates for such quality educational opportunities across Summit County.

We do this first by convening educators and community leaders to engage in understanding and confronting big educational issues on a continuum from preschool through K-12 education and to education beyond high school.

Secondly, we develop prototype programs that illustrate how research-based best practices can be designed and implemented to help remove barriers to high academic achievement.

The challenges to education are so complex that no single individual, school or school district can solve them alone. To achieve the educational outcomes that we desire for *all* our students, we need the participation of others across the community working together in true collaboration.

This work goes beyond cooperation and discussion around similar interests. It requires creativity and a blending of new thinking. Innovative approaches can bring rigorous academic content, critical thinking, problem solving, information and technology skills into students' lives.

SEI has become a place to explore solutions to these challenges and to create a new floor of opportunity for all Summit County students.

I invite you to join us in this conversation and to bring your expertise and talents to the table. Working together, we can create a bright future for students in Summit County.

I thank those who have given their time, talent and dollars to support our endeavors, and I look forward to working with those we hope will join us this year in building exceptional educational opportunities for our young people.



A CRITICAL FIRST STEP IN EDUCATION:

Getting Ready for Kindergarten



SPARK Ohio: Summit County is a free program to help 3- and 4-year-old children in Akron's University Park neighborhood get ready for kindergarten. It offers a wide variety of support services for families in the Leggett and Mason school attendance areas. "Parent partners" meet monthly with children and parents in the families' homes and provide books and activities the parent and child can do together throughout the month.

STARTING PRE-K EFFORT IN UNIVERSITY PARK NEIGHBORHOOD

Work to create this program began in the summer of 2007 when the University Park Alliance called upon SEI to join a collaborative and identify best practices in early childhood education. From that effort came a two-pronged strategy: first, to provide direct support to parents to be their child's first teacher; and second, to develop topnotch preschools in the neighborhood. The first of these became part of SEI's work.

STARTING SPARK LOCALLY

SEI learned about SPARK Ohio by connecting with the Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton, Ohio. The Foundation, whose mission centers on pre-K education, had received a national Kellogg Foundation grant to start SPARK Ohio. The exciting feature of SPARK Ohio is working directly with parents in their homes to help their children get ready for kindergarten.

The Sisters of Charity were ready to replicate SPARK Ohio, and SEI became the supporting organization for replication in Summit County. In November 2007, the University Park Alliance secured funding from the GAR Foundation to launch SPARK Ohio: Summit County. It began in March 2008 with 30 families whose four-year-olds were slated to attend Mason or Leggett elementary schools in the fall of 2008.

PARTNERSHIPS

Greenleaf Family Center joined the effort and provided day-to-day implementation of the program. Greenleaf remains a key partner.

SPARK Ohio: Summit County has other great partners as well. Front and center is the Akron Public Schools. From the start, principals at both Leggett and Mason were cheerleaders for the program. Both schools already make great progress with students once they are in school, but they know firsthand the learning gaps that many of their children bring as they enter school.

Both principals expect SPARK Ohio to provide quality pre-K experiences to give entering kindergarteners the boost they need before starting school.

SPARK SERVICES TO PARENTS

Families participating in SPARK are offered a wide variety of support services for parents and their 3-year-olds and 4-year-olds. These services include:

- A trained and caring parent partner to work with the parent and the child;
- An educational plan for kindergarten readiness for the child;
- Information about the child's development, including support for parents in how to be the best and first teacher of their child;
- Free books, supplies and fun activities to do at each visit with the parent partner;
- Access to various community social services;
- Firsthand knowledge of what the schools expect of children and families, helping to take the mystery out of going to school;
- Step-by-step assistance with kindergarten registration; and
- School supplies a 4-year-old can use at home and at school to start kindergarten.



The work of Monika Hale and other SPARK parent partners helped these 3- and 4-year-olds and their families prepare for kindergarten.

SEI HELPED IDENTIFY BEST PRACTICES

IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

AND WORKED TO PROVIDE DIRECT

SUPPORT TO HELP PARENTS BE

THEIR CHILD'S FIRST TEACHER.



PILOT PROGRAM RESULTS

Early results from the 2008-2009 pilot program show that children who participated in the eight-month program averaged 18.8 points out of a possible 29 on the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment for Literacy test, which measures vocabulary and literacy development necessary for reading. Children without the advantage of SPARK averaged 16.9 points on the test.



Getting Students Ready for Tough Middle-School Math



Learning 24/7 is a program that provides engaging out-of school activities to reinforce the math that students are learning in the classroom. SEI has developed a web site, www.learning247.org, to provide easy access to math activities for middle-grade students and families. The activities have been developed to meet Ohio Department of Education math standards that often prove difficult for students to master. Learning 24/7 can reinforce the “tough math” that students have learned in school, as they take on these activities after school with friends or family members.



Tamiko Hunt and her daughter, Jael Hunt, work on an activity in the Rally for Math booklet.

TEACHERS RALLY FOR MATH

For the second year in a row, SEI sponsored a Rally for Math for fifth-grade teachers from throughout Summit County and distributed free math practice booklets. After attending the Rally, teachers distributed the free booklets to the homes of their math students. Each booklet contains eight engaging math activities for family members and fifth-graders to do together, as well as helpful hints to families on how to boost math achievement. Teachers and schools work diligently during the school day and year to prepare their students for the spring Ohio Achievement Test; this booklet reinforces math concepts taught in the classroom and helps families support their children’s learning beyond the school day.

RALLY HAS GROWN

In 2009, 12 of 17 school districts in Summit County participated. A total of 88 Summit County fifth-grade math teachers took part, as compared to 75 in SEI’s first Rally for Math, held in 2008. In 2009, nearly 3,600 families with fifth-grade students received these booklets, an increase of nearly 1,000 families over last year. Nearly two-thirds of all fifth graders in Summit County were reached through Rally for Math this year.

FAMILIES USED THE BOOKLET

Results were very encouraging and similar to the feedback received last year:

- 75% of families who responded told us they did the math activities together.
- More than 89% of the families reported completing at least two of the activities; more than 54% completed all eight.
- 73% of the teachers said the activities helped increase parent engagement.
- 95% of the families said that the activities “helped somewhat” or that they now “understand the math concepts better.”

“ AS A PARENT, I FOUND THE RALLY FOR MATH ACTIVITIES FUN AND ENGAGING. AS A SUPERINTENDENT, I KNOW THAT ANYTIME LEARNING IS REINFORCED AND SUPPORTED AT HOME, THERE IS A GREATER CHANCE STUDENTS WILL RETAIN IT. ”

— Jeff Ferguson, Superintendent, Tallmadge City Schools



HATS OFF TO THESE FIFTH-GRADE TEACHERS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE 2009 RALLY FOR MATH

AKRON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

- Barber Elementary**
Martha Skinner
- Barrett Academy**
Jennifer Irwin
- Bettes Elementary School**
Rebecca Falatok
Vincent Malorni
- Crouse Community Learning Center**
Brenda Isaiah
- David Hill Community Learning Center**
Denise Leffler
- Essex Elementary**
Lisa Feist
- Firestone Park Elementary**
Carol Lillich
- Forest Hill Community Learning Center**
Camille Bivens
Claudia Rakic
- Glover Community Learning Center**
Karen Drechsler
- Harris Elementary**
Patricia Bucy
Kenneth Rocco
- Hatton Elementary**
Doreen Slinger
Janice Varca
Brian Martin
- Helen Arnold Community Learning Center**
Barbara Hawkins
- King Elementary**
Debbie Deidrick
Janet Lippincott
- Lawndale Elementary**
Joseph Mitchell
- Lincoln Elementary**
Cleopatra Clifford
- Mason Community Learning Center**
Carletta Ray
Dawn Blakeney
- McEbright Elementary**
Tamara Bialota
- Miller South School**
Kathy Bencze
- Resnik Community Learning Center**
Carole Heck
Diane Pancoe
- Rimer Elementary**
Janice King
Jo Sanders

- Ritzman Community Learning Center**
Nicholas Koelkebeck
- Robinson Community Learning Center**
Sandra Roebuck
- Schumacher Elementary**
Mark Yokum
- Seiberling Elementary**
Rita Myers
- Voris Community Learning Center**
Darla Gromley

BARBERTON CITY SCHOOLS

- Woodford Elementary**
Adam Stone
Phil Hutchison
Sandra Yenchik

COPLEY-FAIRLAWN CITY SCHOOLS

- Copley-Fairlawn Middle School**
Barb Lang
Dana Perkins
Dave Antal
Debbie Perry
Jen Baron
Karen Cole
Mary Dawson
Rosalee Armstrong
Windy Lewis
Wynne Kreps

COVENTRY LOCAL SCHOOLS

- Erwine Middle School**
Chris Roberts
Tiffany Boyes
Vicki Bauer

CUYAHOGA FALLS CITY SCHOOLS

- Gordon DeWitt Elementary**
Carrie Fromson
Errol Brazek
- Lincoln Elementary**
Julie Schlabaugh
- Preston Elementary**
Becky Chaffee
Keith Nelman
- Price Elementary**
Lisa Wood

GREEN LOCAL SCHOOLS

- Green Intermediate School**
Adam Hartman
Amanda Reynolds
Mick Madenfort
Pam Steinkirchner

HUDSON CITY SCHOOLS

- East Woods**
DeAnna VanderSchie
Donald Haines
Ernest Fournier
Joan Knapp
Maria Regan

NORDONIA HILLS CITY SCHOOLS

- Lee Eaton Elementary**
Carrie Mitchner
Heather MacRaidl
Marcia Marrero
Sharon Aloisi

REVERE LOCAL SCHOOLS

- Bath Elementary School**
Sandy Kahoe
Stephanie Thonen
Susan Heiser

SPRINGFIELD LOCAL SCHOOLS

- Schrop Intermediate School**
Cherie Syx
MaryBeth Mitchell
Michele Wagner
Paula Dutton
Tricia Williams

STOW CITY SCHOOLS

- Lakeview School**
Fay Dean
Gina Merriman
Jessica Knepp
Karen Myers
Kathleen Mcleary
Nancy Beres
Stephanie Funai

TALLMADGE CITY SCHOOLS

- Munroe Elementary**
Cherie Foresaw
Christine Thompson
Jim Barbera
Jon Bryan



Helping High Schoolers Get Ready and Go to College



“**DESTINATION COLLEGE SUPPORTS STUDENTS THROUGH AN EXCITING — AND CHALLENGING — TRANSITION. MENTORS, STAFF AND INVESTORS PROVIDE THE NECESSARY TOOLS. IT IS UP TO THE STUDENTS TO MAXIMIZE THE OPPORTUNITIES TO ACHIEVE THEIR GOALS.**”

— *Diettra Engram,*
Program Manager, SEI

Destination College works to increase the number of Summit County students who aspire to and pursue postsecondary education directly following high school—and to ensure that they enter without a need for remediation.

Destination College focuses on three areas:

- Academic Readiness,
- Aspiration Building and
- Direct Financial Support.

In the fall, juniors from partner school districts are selected. These are students who have the ability to be successful in postsecondary programs and need significant support to make the transition.

COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS

Destination College:

- Prepares students to boost their October ACT scores so they are less likely to be placed in developmental courses as freshmen.
- Gives students an edge in planning for and getting into a two- or four-year college or university.
- Connects students with adult mentors who support them through their senior year, help them learn more about careers and the skills required, and keep them connected to the community so they will want to remain in Akron/Summit County after they get their degrees.
- Takes students on tours of two- and four-year colleges or universities to learn firsthand about college life.
- Works with students and families to fill out college applications and complicated federal financial aid forms, so these barriers are overcome.

COMMENDABLE RESULTS

In 2008-09, the track record of students participating in Destination College was commendable.

- All 35 juniors took the ACT in February.
- All 35 seniors took the ACT in October.
- 25 students increased their overall ACT score between one and four points.
- 34 seniors applied to at least one postsecondary institution.
- 26 completed the Federal Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by February 2009.
- 34 seniors were accepted into a postsecondary institution and were expected to enroll in fall 2009.
- 13 seniors received a \$1,500 renewable *Summit Scholars* scholarship.



Luncheon meetings at participating high schools give students guidance on financial fitness, scholarships and what to expect in their first year of college. Here, Louwana Oliva, top right, an executive with METRO Regional Transit Authority and a former Destination College mentor, leads a discussion with students at Garfield High School.



GROWING FROM TWO SCHOOLS TO SIX

In fall 2008, two school districts — Coventry Local Schools and Cuyahoga Falls City Schools — joined the Destination College collaborative, and Akron Public Schools added a second high school — East High School — to the program. Destination College now serves Coventry High School, Cuyahoga Falls’ High School and Schnee Learning Center, East High School, Garfield High School and Tallmadge High School.

The program expansion allows Destination College to serve students in school districts not typically served by college access programs, such as Coventry, Cuyahoga Falls and Tallmadge.

The expansion also advances the goal of Destination College, which is to help more Summit County students get ready to make the transition from high school to postsecondary education.

COLLEGE ACCESS AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Destination College is building sustainability by establishing corporate connections with partner high schools. As high school students prepare to transition from high school to postsecondary education, the pressure to select a major field of study is intense. While students are reassured that most students change their major at least once prior to college graduation, they still feel compelled to select a major course of study. However, many students do not know what careers really “look like.” They have a limited concept of how their skills, or the skills they must develop, will be used in a place of business. They have a limited understanding of how varied levels of education provide multiple points of entry into a particular career field.

To address this knowledge gap, four local corporations agreed to partner with Destination College high schools to provide opportunities for students to explore a career pathway of interest and to build relationships with mentors who will facilitate ongoing opportunities to explore careers

— continued on page 8

DESTINATION COLLEGE MENTORS 2009-2010

Amer Insurance

Hamilton Amer, Independent Insurance Analyst

BCG & Company

Jessica Szydowski, Certified Public Accountant

BCG Systems

Stephanie Smith, Marketing

Brouse McDowell

Chris Cariño, Attorney

California Society of Anesthesiologists

Barbara Hunsicker, Chief Executive Officer

FirstEnergy Corporation

Denise Bracken, Project Manager; Brad Brooks, Strategic Specialist; Mary Beth Carroll, Vice President, Corporate Affairs and Community Involvement; Amanda Curtis, Associate Business Analyst—Treasury; Mark Dudley, Business Analyst; Nancy Garrett, Business Analyst, Forecasting & Analytics; Mike Hajoway, Microsoft/Novell Systems Administrator; Dana Heffner, Business Analyst; Akash Kapoor, Data Warehouse Developer/IT; Renee Kozma, Human Resources Representative; Brinton McIntosh, Assistant Engineer; Ebony Miller, Attorney; Stephen Monter, Business Analyst; Kenneth Murphy, Financial Analyst; Tricia Rose, Human Resources, Learning and Development; Nora Swanson, Workforce Development; Kathryn Tatman, Interior Designer/Facility Planner

— continued on page 9



Above: SEI's Diettra Ingram, top right, meets with corporate liaisons for Destination College including, standing, from left, Annetta Provens, Akron Children's Hospital, and Delores Jones, FirstEnergy Corporation, and, seated, from left, Tessa Schmidt, Akron Children's Hospital, Faith Stewart, The Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, and Kimberly Moss, Summa Health System.

Below: As their Destination College experience neared an end, Garfield High School students Desmond Davis, left, Courtney Waldsmith, second from right, and Shawn McNair, right, joined other participants in celebrating their acceptance into college as they also paid tribute to their mentors, Ben and Tessa Tegel, center.

throughout the 2009-10 academic year. Akron Children's Hospital is partnering with Coventry and Cuyahoga Falls High Schools, FirstEnergy Corporation with Tallmadge High School, The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company with East High School, and Summa Health System with Garfield High School.

During the 2009 Summer Academy, students spent two days at their corporate sites shadowing, problem solving and learning about high-need career fields. Key executives and talented professionals took time to give students an inside look at the world of work. These corporate partnerships are designed to help Destination College students get ready for careers, giving their coursework relevance and building a pipeline to careers right here in Summit County.

SCHOOL AND CORPORATE PARTNERS

Destination College would not exist without the superb partnership among Akron Public Schools, Coventry Local Schools, Cuyahoga Falls City Schools, Tallmadge City Schools, The University of Akron and SEI.

The corporate partnerships with Akron Children's Hospital, FirstEnergy Corporation, The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company and Summa Health System provide added relevance to the students' course selection, experiences and program sustainability.

While our core partners are integral to the work we do, it would be impossible to get the students ready for education beyond high school and for subsequent careers without the dedication and support of many other partners. (See "Friends/Benefactors" on page 10.)



Below: The new class of 69 Destination College participants, inducted in May 2009, was twice the size of the previous class and involved six schools versus the previous two.



Photo courtesy of Lyons Photography.

CORPORATE LEADERS SUPPORT THE SUMMER ACADEMY AND LINKS TO LOCAL HIGH SCHOOLS



We see tremendous value in the Destination College goal of making college attainable for all high school graduates. We like to introduce kids to career possibilities — to get them thinking and dreaming. It benefits the individual and the healthcare industry.

—**William Considine**,
President/Chief Executive Officer,
AKRON CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL



FirstEnergy is very involved in the community — and we look for opportunities to make a difference. SEI is right at the heart of what we do. The two-day Summer Academy helped us begin to assist and build relationships with possible future employees.

—**Ali Jamshidi**, *Vice President,*
Commodity Operations,
FIRSTENERGY CORPORATION



Our employees mentor students from East High School, serving as a resource for the students, making time to reach out to them, helping them to see how they might become the engineers, researchers, accountants and Ph.D.s that Goodyear and other employers will need in the future.

—**Brad S. Lakhia**, *Vice President,*
Finance, Global Procurement,
THE GOODYEAR TIRE &
RUBBER COMPANY



One of the pillars of Summa's strategic plan is workforce development. Downstream, the nation is facing a worrisome shortage of healthcare workers. Encouraging our region's children to consider healthcare careers here will benefit them and the region.

—**Joseph Zarconi, M.D., F.A.C.P.**,
System Vice President, Medical
Education & Research,
SUMMA HEALTH SYSTEM

DESTINATION COLLEGE MENTORS 2009-2010

(continued from page 7)

Girl Scouts of North East Ohio

Andrea Wlaszyn, MPA, Fund Development Coordinator

The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company

Dave Heck, Business Financial Analyst; Joe Jadick, Application Development Consultant; Philip Jones, Director, Global Product Planning; Walter Scott, Corporate Forecasting; Tara Szilagy, Global Benefits Finance; Sherry Neubert, Regional IT Manager; Barb Whiddon, IT Manager; Catherine Portyrata, Supply Chain Coordinator; Sherry Rock, Global IT Services; Susan Smatana, Development Engineer; Paula Tangenberg, Real Estate Contract Administrator; Amy Wynn, Marketing Coordinator

Great Trail Council,

Boy Scouts of America

Daniel Murphy, Professional Scouting; Dennis Vargo, Senior District Executive

KnowledgePoints

Tessa Tegel, Director of Learning

Merrill Lynch

Ben Tegel, Financial Advisor

Hunsicker Appraisal Service

Oscar Hunsicker III, President

The RoviSys Company

Joe Rose, Engineer

SummaCare

Marty Hauser, Executive/President

Summa Health System

Barbara Brunt, Registered Nurse; Felicia Caffey, Research Technologist; Marcus Carter, Protective Services Sergeant; Judy Creque, Registered Nurse; Terry Creque, Registered Nurse; Megan Edison, Administrative Secretary; J.C. Fischer, Director, Disability Management; Brad Gable, Emergency Medicine Resident Physician; Rosemary Hickin, Senior Application Support Specialist/IT&S Professional; Kyle Klawitter, System Vice President, Human Resources; Siomara Marquetti, Coordinator, Volunteers Department; Megan Mills, Manager of Training; Demond Scott, Family Physician; Alexander Spear, Security Officer; Claudester Stephens, Infection Control Professional; Sharon VanNostran, Physician; Beth Vidmar, Director of Human Resources Development

Veyance Technologies, Inc.

Asuama Yeboah, Business Development Manager

DESTINATION COLLEGE FRIENDS/BENEFACTORS 2009-2010

Akron Children's Hospital, Cathy Corbin, Occupational Therapist; Catherine Craig, Physical Therapist; Linda Dayton-Keyhoe, Occupational Therapist; Mary Beth Doerr, Occupational Therapist; Linda Emore, Director of Child Advocacy and Government Relations; Kristina Gent, Physical Therapist; Megan Goyzueta, Therapy Aide; Carolyn Hofmann, Human Resources; Bea Kovacova, Physical Therapist; Sarah Lawson, Occupational Therapist; Colleen Manion, Occupational Therapist; Iris Meltzer, Administrative Director, Adolescent Services; Sally Moledor, Physical Therapist; Annetta Provens, Manager, Employee Relations; Gretchen Rhine, Therapy Aide; Tessa Schmidt, Employment Manager, Human Resources

Akron Civic Theatre, Molly J. Barnwell, Development Officer

Akron Urban League Young Professionals

Akron Public Schools, David James, Superintendent; Rue Blum, Business Affairs; Debra Foulk, Executive Director, Business Affairs; Sue Guttman, Records Associate; Ellen McWilliams, Assistant Superintendent; Julia Mann, Executive Director of Secondary

Community Volunteers, Edie Kuhn, Niki Owens

Coventry Local Schools, Russell Chaboudy, Superintendent

Coventry High School, Jon Hibian, Principal; Jen Horner, Counselor; Nils Swenberg, Teacher

Cuyahoga Falls City Schools, Dr. Edwin Holland, Superintendent; Walter Davis, Assistant Superintendent

Cuyahoga Falls High School, Anne Alfano, Principal; Holly Bloom, Teacher

Barberton City Schools, Mike Andric, Math Teacher; Rachel Boudler, Math Teacher; Mindy Zufra, Math Teacher

BCG & Company, Julie Hall, Tax Manager

East Akron Neighborhood Development Corporation, Toya Kelker, Credit Counselor

East High School, Norma James, English Teacher; Josh Oldham, Science Teacher

FirstEnergy Corporation, Robert Brown, Consultant, Portfolio Balancing; Eric Bryant, Manager, Generation Deployment; Christina Brunson, Associate Business Analyst; Christy Casanova,

Associate Workforce Development Representative; Shaun Grayson, Supervisor, Transportation and Distribution; Rich Hoag, Senior Engineer; Ali Jamshidi, Vice President, Commodity Operations; Delores Jones, Manager, Community Initiatives; Fred Maurer, Senior Customer Service Representative; Michele Miller, Supervisor, Recruiting; Ken Murphy, Staff Business Analyst; Michael Pickford, Business Analyst; Dennis Price, Manager, Forecasting & Analytics; Robert Rose, Manager; Christina Ross, Co-Op/Intern Program Coordinator

FirstMerit Bank, Eustacia Netzel, Assistant Vice President, Commercial Banking

Garfield High School, Diane Abood, Counselor; H. James Dieringer, Principal

The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, Bill Campailla, Systems Specialist, Tire Evaluation QS/CIS; Rob Delagrange, Senior Blimp Pilot; Michael Dougherty, Senior Blimp Pilot; Delwyn Harvey, Development Engineer/Designer; Erin Miller, Airship PR Coordinator; Steve Myers, General Manager, Auto Engineering; Christopher Queen, Lead Engineer, Passenger Tires; Jonathan Shondel, Tire Designer; Faith Stewart, Director, Community Affairs and Creative Services; John Struhsaker, Project Leader, Global Tire & Mold Engineering; Carmela Varvaro, Executive Assistant, Global Strategic Initiatives

Hudson High School, Lauren Conway, Math Teacher

Main Street Gourmet, Jim Braun, Purchasing Director; Kelly Loebick-Frascella, Human Resources Director; Harvey Nelson; Co-Chief Executive Officer; Bryan Smith, Production Manager

Metro Regional Transit Authority, Louwana Oliva, former Assistant Executive Director/EEO Officer

Ninth District Court of Appeals, Betsy Hartschuh, Attorney

Northeastern Ohio Universities Colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy, Jonathan Jackson, Admissions Counselor

Schnee Learning Center, Dona Cardone, Executive Director; Shannah Cariño, Counselor

Summit Education Initiative, Denny Buzzelli, SEI Associate—Learning 24/7; Carmen Buck, former Chief Operating Officer; Margaret Roberts, SEI Associate—SPARK

Stark State College of Technology, Wally Hoffer, Dean, Admissions and Student Services; Robin Tyler, Multicultural Affairs Officer

Summa Foundation, Anthony Burwell, former Development Officer, Annual Fund; Angela Hayes, Director, Community Reinvestment

Summa Health System, S. Scott Atkinson, RN, EMT, Coordinator, Simulation Lab; Rproxia Boykin, Vice President, Community Benefit and Diversity; Jessica Creque, Human Resource Department Intern; Bridgette Daniel, Pharm.D., Clinical Staff Pharmacist; Anne Doan, RN, Staff Development Instructor; Cathy Duffy, Assistant Clinical Manager; Valarie Grant, RN Service Coordinator; Mary Hailer, Pharm.D., Supervisor of Pharmacy Central Operations; Donna Harper, Staff Development Instructor; Barb Leisinger, Educational Coordinator and Safety Officer; Angie McIntyre, RN, Nursing Resource Coordinator; Kimberly Moss, MNO, Workforce Development Specialist; Terri Robinson, Resident and Medical Student Manager; Edward D. Scott III, M.D.; Phil Swansinger, Unit Manager; Derek Yeager, Senior Physical Therapist; Dr. Joseph Zarconi, Vice President, Medical Education and Research

Tallmadge City Schools, Jeff Ferguson, Superintendent

Tallmadge High School, Joyce Conway, Math Teacher; Rebecca DeCapua, Principal; Nancy Fluke, Head of Guidance; Ike Holzapfel, Math Teacher; Dee Kemp, Math Teacher; Arene Staszak, Math Teacher; Mark Swindell, Math Teacher

Torchbearers

The University of Akron, Dr. David Baker, Interim Senior Vice President and Provost; Jeremy Butler, Associate Director, Alumni Association; Christine Curry, Director of Development, Stewardship and Donor Services; Lee Gill, Associate Vice President for Inclusion and Equity; Anedra Jones, College Lecturer, Department of Theoretical & Applied Mathematics; Dave Marsteller, Assistant Director, Student Financial Aid; Dr. Karla Mugler, Associate Provost and Dean, University College; Dr. Mark Shermis, Dean, College of Education; Dr. Elizabeth Stroble, former Senior Vice President and Provost

Walsh University, Rebecca Coneglio, Admissions Counselor; Jordan Harkless, Admissions Counselor

Last-dollar Scholarships Help Students Bridge Tuition Gaps



Summit Scholars, a collaborative effort of The University of Akron Foundation and Summit Education Initiative, provides scholarships to help students go to college.

Each Summit Scholars recipient receives \$1,500 toward the cost of tuition. These “last-dollar” scholarships assist students in filling the gap between other grants they may have received and the full cost of tuition.

Every dollar contributed to the Summit Scholars program goes to scholarship awards.



A FIRST-YEAR SUCCESS

- In August 2008, a total of 27 of these last-dollar scholarships were awarded, totaling \$40,500.
- Students attended the following schools:
 - » *Bowling Green State University*
 - » *Hiram College*
 - » *Kent State University*
 - » *The Ohio State University*
 - » *Stark State College of Technology*
 - » *The University of Akron*
 - » *The University of Toledo*
 - » *University of Rio Grande*
 - » *Walsh University*
- All 27 students enrolled and completed their first and second semesters.

BEGINNING THE SECOND YEAR

- For the 2009-10 school year, 19 students who had completed their freshman year in college were given awards for their second year of higher education, for a total of \$28,500.
- New graduates of Destination College were eligible to apply for these \$1,500 renewable scholarships for the 2009-10 school year, and 13 won their initial Summit Scholars scholarship, for a total of \$19,500 in scholarships given.
- Students are attending the following schools:
 - » *Bluffton University*
 - » *Cleveland Institute of Art*
 - » *Heidelberg University*
 - » *Kent State University*
 - » *The University of Akron*
 - » *Walsh University*



RECIPIENTS REFLECT ON THE VALUE OF SUMMIT SCHOLARS GRANTS



LORDELL HORNE

“The Summit Scholars award was very important to me. The engineering program required about 16 hours of studying during the week, with more on the weekends. If I had had to get a job while in school, my grades would have slipped. It allowed me to really focus on my studies.”

Lordell is a 2008 Garfield High School graduate who is in his second year at The Ohio State University, majoring in electrical engineering.



DARLA WOODS

“Summit Scholars made it possible for me to go to college in the fall semester instead of waiting and working to save more — and it made everything else more affordable, including food and gas — which are important to me as a commuter student.”

Darla is a 2008 Garfield High School graduate and is in her second year at The University of Akron.



MARISSA RADISH

“Summit Scholars made the difference in my college education. I couldn’t pay out of pocket. The scholarship was unexpected and appreciated by me and my family.”

Marissa is a 2008 Garfield High School graduate who is in her second year at The University of Akron and made the Dean’s List both semesters of her freshman year.



SHANNON KOWALESKI

“I knew immediately that Hiram was a great fit. I wanted to go to a small school and I wouldn’t have been able to go to Hiram without Summit Scholars. Students in inner-city schools have it harder when it comes to going to college. This really makes a difference and is such a great opportunity.”

Shannon is a 2008 graduate of Tallmadge High School and is in her second year in the Nursing program at Hiram College.

SUMMIT SCHOLARS STEERING COMMITTEE

- Ann Amer Brennan**, *Chairman*, BRENNAN FAMILY FOUNDATION
- Christine Amer Mayer**, *Chief Operating Officer*, GAR FOUNDATION
- Melvin Blake**, *Supervisor, Department of Public Service*, CITY OF AKRON
- Kristi Brant**, *Director of Development, Special Projects*, THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON
- Steve Brubaker**, *Senior Vice President*, INFOCISION MANAGEMENT CORP.
- David Firestine**, *Attorney*, WITSCHHEY WITSCHHEY & FIRESTINE CO. LPA
- Larry Frank**, *President / COO*, COMDOC, INC.
- Heidi Day Hall**, *Community Relations Specialist*, COUNTY OF SUMMIT
- David James**, *Superintendent*, AKRON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
- Ali Jamshidi**, *Vice President, Commodity Operations*, FIRSTENERGY CORPORATION
(Representing Summit Education Initiative)
- Rick Kellar**, *Executive Director*, THE MARGARET CLARK MORGAN FOUNDATION
- Barbara Mathews*** *(Representing Summit Education Initiative)*
- Dr. Karla Mugler**, *Associate Provost & Dean of University College*, THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON
- Donald L. Plusquellic**, *Mayor*, CITY OF AKRON
- Russell M. Pry**, *County Executive*, COUNTY OF SUMMIT
- Dr. Helen Qammar**, *Director, Institute of Teaching & Learning*, THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON
- Brian Ray**, *Vice President, Corporate Banking*, NATIONAL CITY BANK
- Roger & Judy Read**, COMMUNITY LEADERS
- Stan Silverman**, *Dean of Summit College*, THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON

* now deceased



P-16 ALLIANCE OF SUMMIT COUNTY:

Focusing the Passion of Individuals Working to Improve the Education Continuum



SEI IS THE CONVENING ORGANIZATION FOR THE P-16 ALLIANCE, WHICH WORKS TO BUILD A FUTURE IN WHICH ALL SUMMIT COUNTY CHILDREN ASPIRE TO HIGHER LEVELS OF EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT.

SEI is proud to be the sponsoring organization for the P-16 Alliance of Summit County and to serve as the convening organization. The P-16 Alliance of Summit County is motivated by the vision of a future in which all Summit County children, adolescents and young adults aspire to higher levels of educational attainment and receive the support they need to achieve ambitious educational goals through an effective collaboration of individuals, schools, businesses and community organizations throughout the county.

The P-16 Alliance of Summit County brings together local leaders across the community to:

- Review data about social, educational and economic conditions at key transitions;
- Build common agreement on goals and areas of focus;
- Leverage local resources to focus on the big educational challenges students face at each transition point;
- Learn from promising practices locally and beyond; and
- Build links between local policymakers and those at the state level.

The benefit of the work of the P-16 Alliance is that it offers a “place” or way to coordinate the passion of individuals who are interested in improving the community’s education continuum.

Two key transition points in the P-16 work are Kindergarten Readiness and the High School-to-Postsecondary area.

KINDERGARTEN READINESS ADVANTAGE

The Kindergarten Readiness Advantage Work Group links directly with the P-16 Alliance of Summit County. Over the next three years, the group is working on countywide strategies with the following three goals:

GOAL 1 – READY COMMUNITY: Develop and organize a public engagement campaign for Summit County to increase awareness of the importance of early childhood learning and development.

GOAL 2 – READY KIDS: Increase the number of children in Summit County who are ready for kindergarten.

GOAL 3 – READY PRESCHOOLS: Increase the number of quality early child-care settings in Summit County.





Shown above, from left, are Yu-Ling Yeh, Linda Emore, Chris Yuhasz, Mary Bishop, Susan Long, David Jennings and Barbara Rickenbacker.

The members of the Kindergarten Readiness Advantage Work Group are:

Mary Bishop, *Family Development Consultant*, AKRON SUMMIT COMMUNITY ACTION, INC.

Tonya Block, *Director*, SUMMIT COUNTY FAMILY & CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL

Ken Ditlevson, M.Ed. LPCC-S, *Director, Early Childhood Services*, CHILD GUIDANCE & FAMILY SOLUTIONS

Linda Emore, *Director of Child Advocacy and Government Relations*, AKRON CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

Sarah Jackson, *Early Childhood Consultant*, SUMMIT COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

David Jennings, *Director*, AKRON-SUMMIT COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Dr. Susan Long, *Interim Executive Director*, SUMMIT EDUCATION INITIATIVE

Amy McLaughlin, *Program Director*, CHILD CARE CONNECTION

Barbara Rickenbacker, *School Improvement Coordinator*, AKRON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Yu-Ling Yeh, *Consultant*, AKRON SUMMIT COMMUNITY ACTION, INC.

Chris Yuhasz, *Director, Community Relations*, AKRON METROPOLITAN HOUSING AUTHORITY



Shown above, clockwise from bottom left, are Judy Maver, Susan Long, Sandie Crawford, Dr. Karla Mugler, Diettra Engram and William Holko.

The members of the High School-to-Postsecondary Work Group are:

Sandie Crawford, *Director, Developmental Programs*, Summit College, THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON

Coleen Curry, *Director, Academic Achievement Programs*, THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON

Diettra Engram, *Program Manager*, SUMMIT EDUCATION INITIATIVE

William Holko, *Director of Curriculum and Instruction*, SUMMIT COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

Dr. Susan Long, *Interim Executive Director*, SUMMIT EDUCATION INITIATIVE

Judy Maver, *Counselor*, Ellet High School, AKRON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Dr. Karla Mugler, *Associate Provost & Dean of University College*, THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON

HIGH SCHOOL-TO-POSTSECONDARY

The High School-to-Postsecondary Work Group is focusing on creating a prototype college access framework that would be available for any high school across Summit County. The key question is: What helps an individual student enter and complete college?

The work group is developing this framework around four key concepts:

COMPONENT 1 – EXPECTATIONS. Linking postsecondary education and the student's ability to pursue a planned career makes gaining a postsecondary education real to students.

COMPONENT 2 – PEER CULTURE. The factor most likely to increase a student's odds of completing college is having a significant number of friends who are also planning to attend.

COMPONENT 3 – COLLEGE PREPARATORY CURRICULUM. Taking a college preparatory curriculum in high school significantly increases postsecondary completion rates.

COMPONENT 4 – AFFORDABILITY. Applying for financial aid improves the likelihood that students will obtain a bachelor's degree.

All of these components blend into a college-going culture in high school that creates a floor of opportunity for all students in Summit County.

THE COORDINATING COUNCIL OF THE P-16 ALLIANCE OF SUMMIT COUNTY



Shown above, from left, standing, are Rick McIntosh, Robert Kulinski, Susan Long, Ellen McWilliams, Donae Eckert and Malcolm Costa, and seated, from left, Jill Adams, Kirstin Toth, Megann Eberhart, David Jennings and Coleen Curry.

Adult Education Leaders: David Jennings, Director, Akron-Summit County Public Library; Rick McIntosh, Executive Director, Project Learn of Summit County

Business Leaders: Chuck Byrd, Executive Director, Summit Workforce Solutions; Daniel Colantone, President/CEO, Greater Akron Chamber; William Considine, President/CEO, Akron Children's Hospital; Megann Eberhart, Manager, Advocacy, Greater Akron Chamber

Civic Leaders: Jill Adams, Public Information Officer, County of Summit; Laraine Duncan, Deputy Mayor for Intergovernmental Relations, City of Akron; Donald L. Plusquellic, Mayor, City of Akron; Russell M. Pry, County Executive, County of Summit

K-12 District Leaders: Linda Fuline, Superintendent, Summit County Educational Service Center; David James, Superintendent, Akron Public Schools; Ellen McWilliams, Assistant Superintendent, Akron Public Schools; Mary Jane Stanchina, Executive Director, Six District Educational Compact

Higher Education Leaders: Coleen Curry, Director, Academic Achievement Programs, The University of Akron; Dr. Luis Proenza, President, The University of Akron; Dr. Mark Shermis, Dean, College of Education, The University of Akron

Leaders of Community-Based Organizations: Robert Briggs, President, GAR Foundation; Robert Kulinski, President, United Way of Summit County; Donae Eckert, Vice President, Programs, Akron Community Foundation; Diettra Engram, Program Manager, Summit Education Initiative; Dr. Susan Long, Interim Executive Director, Summit Education Initiative; Kirstin Toth, Senior Program Officer, GAR Foundation

Preschool/Early Childhood Leaders: Malcolm Costa, President/CEO, Akron Summit Community Action, Inc.; Tonya Block, Director, Summit County Family & Children First Council



Summit County Coalition Helps Students ‘KnowHow2Go’



Nearly one-third of Summit County’s first-year college students must take remedial courses in math and/or English. But if students began preparing for postsecondary education in middle school, the number who need remediation would decline. Educational aspirations begin to develop at birth, so it’s never too early to start preparing.

LETTERS FROM LOCAL BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY LEADERS GO TO 5,460 EIGHTH GRADERS

For the second year, the Summit County Coalition of Access Programs (CAP) spearheaded a community campaign in which local leaders write to local eighth graders. The campaign helped the 13 local college-access programs reach many more students than are directly served through programs at the high school level. CAP members and community and business leaders communicated the importance of postsecondary education to almost every 8th grader in Summit County. Furthermore, students who returned a response card receive continued planning tools and feedback, regardless of whether their high school has access programs to serve them directly once they begin high school.

Nearly every superintendent in the county’s 17 school districts endorsed this way to inspire students to remain focused — or to become focused — on preparing for education beyond high school.

In June 2009, 5,460 eighth graders from 28 middle/junior high schools received a personal letter from one of 377 adult leaders, including Akron Mayor Don Plusquellic and Summit County Executive Russ Pry. Each leader shared a personal story about his or her own high school or college experience. Each also encouraged the eighth grader to take challenging courses and get involved in activities in high school.

THE LETTERS WERE A HIT!

Many schools distributed their letters as part of eighth-grade recognition ceremonies.

Principal Joanne Orlando at Goodrich Middle School used the letters to reinforce the need to take rigorous courses in high school—especially in math, science and foreign language.

The eighth graders at U.L. Light Middle School heard from a Barberton High School student who mentored middle school students during the 2008-09 school year.

Green Middle School students heard firsthand experiences (academic and extracurricular) from their principal, Jeff Miller, while they received their letters.

**CAP MEMBERS AND
COMMUNITY AND BUSINESS
LEADERS COMMUNICATED
THE IMPORTANCE OF
POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION
TO ALMOST EVERY 8TH
GRADER IN SUMMIT COUNTY.**





English teachers at Norton Middle School held class discussions focused on the need to take challenging courses in high school and asked students to write about their educational aspirations.

APPEALING, STRAIGHTFORWARD MESSAGES

The letters to the eighth graders also encouraged them to visit www.KnowHow2GoOhio.org to learn more about what they can do now to prepare for college. The Web site offers four simple steps to guide students through the college planning process from middle school to 12th grade. It encourages students to:

1. **Be a pain – in a good way.** Let everyone know that you're going to college and need their help.
2. **Push yourself and don't stop.** Work a little harder today to make getting into college easier.
3. **Find the right fit.** Find out what kind of school is the best match for you and your career goals.
4. **Put your hands on some cash.** If you think you can't afford college, think again. There's lots of financial aid out there.

To learn more about KnowHow2GoOhio and the steps Ohio students can take to prepare for education beyond high school, visit www.KnowHow2GoOhio.org. Sponsors of the national campaign are the Lumina Foundation for Education, the American Council on Education and the Ad Council.

The Summit County coalition, convened by SEI, comprises 13 college access programs.

SUMMIT COUNTY COALITION OF ACCESS PROGRAMS

- Akron Early College High School
- Destination College
- Educational Talent Search at The University of Akron
- Firestone Fellows Strive Towards Excellence Program
- Healthcare In Progress
- Ohio College Tech Prep, Akron Area Consortium
- Post-Secondary Enrollment Options at The University of Akron
- Pre-Engineering Program at The University of Akron
- Project GRAD Akron
- Seniors to Sophomores
- Upward Bound Classic at Kent State University
- Upward Bound Classic at The University of Akron
- Upward Bound Math and Science at The University of Akron

KNOWHOW2GOOHIO 2009 LETTER-WRITING CAMPAIGN

Kudos to leaders from these 32 companies and organizations who took time to write to and encourage an eighth-grader:

- Akron Children's Hospital
- Akron General Medical Center
- Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority
- Akron Public Schools
- Akron Urban League
- Akron Zoological Park
- BCG & Company
- Brouse McDowell
- CF Bank
- City of Akron
- County of Summit
- FirstMerit Bank
- GAR Foundation
- Hitchcock, Fleming & Associates
- InfoCision Management Corporation
- Jack and Jill of America, Inc. – Akron Chapter
- Millennial Group
- Oriana House
- Project Blueprint Alumni Association
- Project GRAD Akron
- Roetzel & Andress L.P.A.
- Stark & Knoll Co. L.P.A.
- Sterling Jewelers
- Summa Health System
- SummaCare



Four School Districts Use EXPLORE to Help Eighth Graders

COLLEGE READINESS
BEGINS BEFORE STUDENTS
ENTER HIGH SCHOOL
— AND INCLUDES THE
DECISIONS MADE IN
EIGHTH GRADE ABOUT
WHETHER TO TAKE TOUGH
COURSES AS FRESHMEN.

Getting ready for college truly needs to begin in middle school. That’s when students develop a personal study ethic — or none at all. And eighth graders make decisions about whether or not to take tough courses as high school freshmen.

With this tool, many eighth graders now have a way to find out if they are on track to be ready for college. ACT Inc. offers the Educational Planning and Assessment System, which includes the well-known ACT test used in college admission decisions. The first step in this system is an assessment called EXPLORE, which is tied to the Ohio Academic Learning Standards and which tells eighth-graders how they compare to students across the country.

EXPLORE provides early information for students related to career interests and to the *College Readiness Benchmarks* related to the ACT test. ACT Inc.’s *College Readiness Benchmarks* indicate the likelihood that a student will be successful in first-year college courses. Discovering as early as the eighth grade that you are on track for college — or that you have some work to do — gives students a starting point and a target to shoot for while they have time to dig in and focus on their academics. Likewise, the data can help educators incorporate classroom support that reinforces the skills students need to master.

In December 2008, SEI convened a group of superintendents and college-access providers to learn about EXPLORE and discuss the benefits for students, families and educators. As a result, four school districts — Akron Public Schools, Coventry Local Schools, Cuyahoga Falls City Schools and Tallmadge City Schools — agreed to pilot EXPLORE in fall 2009 with their eighth graders. SEI will receive aggregate data on students from the four districts and will help to create a process for follow-up conversations with the students and their families about the results.

Additionally, middle and high school guidance personnel will have more information on students to help them develop their freshman high school schedules. The data that are captured should make the transition from middle school to high school a more seamless and purposeful process for students, families, educators and administrators.





How You Can Help

ALL OF THESE PROGRAMS WELCOME YOUR INTEREST, INVOLVEMENT AND SUPPORT. YOU CAN MAKE AN IMPORTANT DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF STUDENTS.

This Annual Report has outlined some of the programs and people who are working to make education Summit County's highest priority. But there is much more to do.

You can help students of all ages across Summit County participate in exceptional educational opportunities.

HERE ARE SOME OF THE WAYS YOU CAN HELP

To support quality early childhood experiences such as **SPARK Ohio: Summit County**, you can:

- Make a contribution to the programs for 3- or 4-year-olds.
- Support the cost of an interpreter or the translation of materials and lessons for families for whom English is a second language.

Contact Susan Long at 330.535.8833 or email at sue@seisummit.org.

To help students get ready for tough middle-school math, **Learning 24/7** offers you the opportunity to:

- Sponsor an advertisement in the Rally for Math booklet: business-card size, \$175; quarter-page, \$325; half page, \$600; and full page, \$900.
- Sponsor the February 2010 Rally for Math to recognize fifth-grade teachers across Summit County who will distribute and encourage the use of the booklets (Cost: \$3,000).
- Sponsor and brand a new math activity on www.learning247.org for thousands of parents and students to access. (Cost for each activity from development to Web posting: \$2,400).

Contact Denny Buzzelli at 330.535.8833 or email at denny@seisummit.org.

To help high school students achieve their dream of going to college, here's what you can do through **Destination College**:

- Invest in graphing calculators for ACT preparation and exams (Cost per high school, \$2,000).
- Sponsor the 2010 Spring Workshops (Cost: \$3,620).
- Sponsor the practice ACT test during Orientation (Cost: \$2,290).

Contact Diettra Enggram at 330.535.8833 or email diettra@seisummit.org.

To help high school students with a college scholarship through **Summit Scholars**, you can:

- Assure a student a one-year scholarship by making a \$1,500 donation.
- Assure a student a four-year scholarship by making a \$6,000 donation.

Contact Laura Purdy at 330.535.8833, email laura22@uakron.edu or Susan Long at 330.535.8833, email sue@seisummit.org.

Your help can make a real impact in the life of a child.



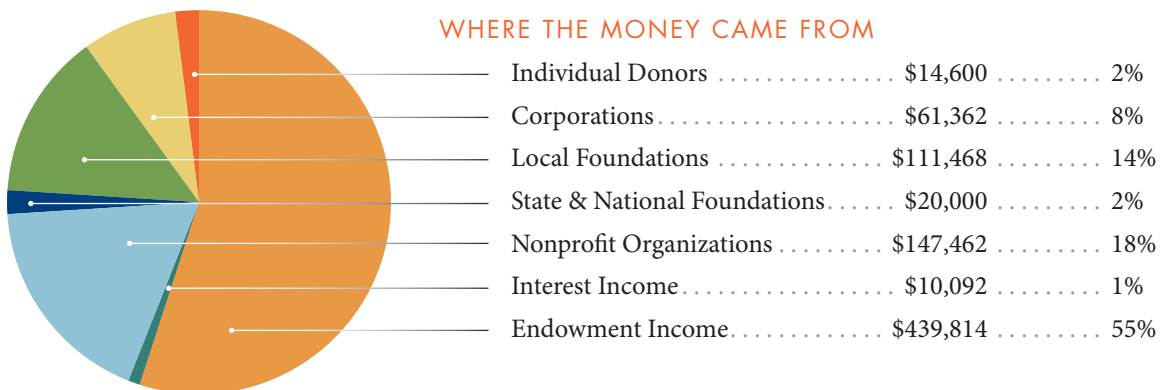
Investors Can Count on SEI

SUMMIT EDUCATION INITIATIVE IS A GOOD STEWARD OF THE SUPPORT IT RECEIVES FROM THE COMMUNITY

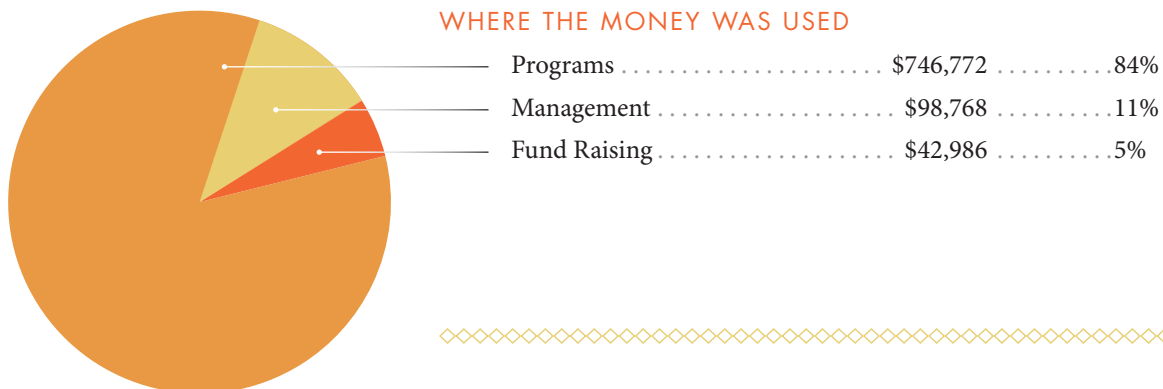
Summit Education Initiative invests the majority of its dollars into increasing the educational aspirations and achievement of all children in Summit County. Overhead costs are kept to a minimum.

Support of SEI comes from a combination of individual and corporate donors, foundations, nonprofit support and interest income. These monies supplement income from an endowment fund created in 1996 by community leaders and local organizations that serves as the financial base of Summit Education Initiative.

WHERE THE MONEY CAME FROM



WHERE THE MONEY WAS USED



Note: Accounting standards require the recognition of revenues in the fiscal year in which they are committed or received. Temporarily restricted contributions of \$326,461 were recognized in prior years and carried over to fund programs during 2008-2009. Likewise, temporarily restricted contributions totaling \$274,950 were recognized in 2008-2009 and have been set aside to fund programs in 2009-10.



Thank You to our Investors for Fiscal Year 2008-09

Local Foundations

Akron Community Foundation
 Alpha Phi Alpha Foundation of Akron, Inc.
 Glenn R. and Alice V. Boggess Memorial Foundation
 FirstMerit Foundation
 GAR Foundation
 The Hankins Foundation
 Martha Holden Jennings Foundation
 KeyBank Foundation
 W. Paul Mills & Thora J. Mills Memorial Foundation
 OMNOVA Solutions Foundation
 PPG Industries Foundation
 Charles E. and Mabel M. Ritchie Memorial Foundation
 The Sisler McFawn Foundation
 Summa Foundation

State-Level Funding

Ohio Board of Regents
 Ohio College Access Network (OCAN)

Corporate Investors

Akron Children's Hospital
 FirstEnergy Corporation
 The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company
 Honeywell, Inc.
 Meaden & Moore, Ltd.
 Myers Industries, Inc.
 National City Bank
 Roetzel & Andress
 Rubber City Arches, LLC
 Summa Health System

Nonprofit Organizations

All American Soap Box Derby, Inc.
 Christ Child Society of Akron, Inc.
 FirstBook–Greater Akron
 Ronald McDonald House Charities® of Northeastern Ohio, Inc.
 Summit College, The University of Akron
 The University of Akron
 The University of Akron Alumni Association
 The University of Akron, University Park Alliance (with grant from GAR Foundation)

Individual Investors

Charles and Lynn Asente
 Nicholas and Cynthia Browning
 Carmen Buck
 Dennis and Merle Buzzelli
 William and Rebecca Considine
 James Crutchfield
 Andrew Duff
 Diettra Engram
 Leonard Foster
 Carol Hulsemann
 Dr. Judythe Hummel
 Ali and Cynthia Jamshidi
 Dennis and Sandra Lambes
 Brad and Karen Lakhia
 Dr. Susan Long
 Barbara Mathews
 Roger and Judy Read
 Margaret Roberts
 Suzanne Rickards
 Joseph and Jeananne Siegfert
 David and Kirstin Toth
 James and Evelyn Unger
 Michael and Jean Van Ness
 Dr. Willie C. Watts, Jr.
 Dr. Karen Williams
 Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Zarconi

Investors in Summit Scholars

(under The University of Akron Foundation)

Cohen & Co.
 Charity Beall
 Samra Bojanowski
 Diane Bray
 Steve Brubaker
 Betty Dalton
 Larry Frank
 Tim Fitzwater
 Edie Kuhn
 Riley and Barbara Lochridge
 Roger and Judy Read
 Bud and Suzie Rogers
 Mark Scheffler
 Julia Watkins



ASPIRE HIGHER — AND HIRE!



2008-09 Board of Trustees

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Department of Journalism &
Multimedia Arts*
DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY

Suzanne Rickards
Community Leader

Joseph Zarconi, M.D., F.A.C.P.
*System Vice President, Medical
Education & Research*
SUMMA HEALTH SYSTEM

*deceased

Staff and Associates

Dr. Susan Long
Interim Executive Director

Diettra Engram
Program Manager

Denny Buzzelli
SEI Associate, Learning 24/7

Margaret Roberts
*SEI Associate,
SPARK Ohio: Summit County*

Laura Purdy
SEI Associate, Summit Scholars

Elizabeth Jones-Maguire
SEI Associate

Jenna Syroid
Administrative Assistant



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