



M I D T O W N
E D U C A T I O N A L
F O U N D A T I O N

Midtown Educational Foundation 2018 Fact Sheet

Midtown Educational Foundation guides low-income urban youth in Chicago along pathways of success. Our proven enrichment programs embrace the dignity of the person by focusing on academic excellence, virtue development, individual attention, and parental engagement.

MEF operates through its Metro Achievement Center for girls and Midtown Center for boys in grades 4 – 12. Programs focus on Hispanic and African-American youth, offering after-school and summertime growth opportunities that help students of average academic ability to achieve above-average results. Programs are rooted in Catholic moral and social teaching and embrace students regardless of their religious, racial, ethnic, or familial status. MEF received its original inspiration from Opus Dei, an institution of the Catholic Church, and continues today its partnership with Opus Dei.

MIDTOWN CENTER for boys

Director | Peter Ladwein
1819 N. Wood Street
T | 773 292 2664

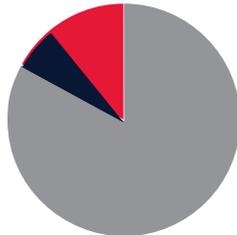
555
students
served
in FY17

119 total
volunteers 

- Founded in 1965
- 6 full-time staff
- 4th to 12th grade students

STUDENT STATISTICS

- 82% Hispanic
- 12% African-American
- 6% Other



METRO ACHIEVEMENT CENTER for girls

Director | Erin Aldrich
310 S. Peoria Street
T | 312 226 4886

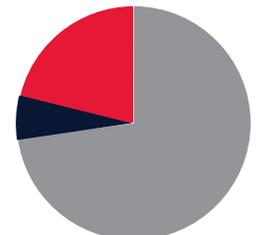
556
students
served
in FY17

230 total
volunteers 

- Founded in 1985
- 8 full-time staff
- 4th to 12th grade students

STUDENT STATISTICS

- 76% Hispanic
- 16% African-American
- 8% Other



10,397
volunteer
hours total 

In FY17, 87% of students came from low-income households, according to HUD standards

Sponsoring Organization: Midtown Educational Foundation; Glenn Wilke, Executive Director | T 312 738 8301

PROGRAMS OFFERED

Walgreens One-on-One Program | 4th to 6th grade

- Exceptional individuals serve as volunteer tutors/mentors for students. Weekly sessions aim to assist students with homework, present them with positive role models, and develop in them the study habits associated with high achievers.

Midtown/Metro Achievement Program | 7th & 8th grade

- Math, science and English courses prepare students to enter college preparatory high schools and ultimately, college. Character development enables students to begin to form a decision framework and vision for their future.

College Orientation Program | 9th to 12th grade

- College, career, and social readiness are emphasized in this program, which offers ACT prep, rigorous academics, enriching character classes, and help with college and scholarship applications. Students also engage in extracurricular offerings such as apprenticeships, community service projects and cultural and college field trips.

The Parenting Program | parents of Midtown/Metro students

- This program provides seminars, support groups and individual counseling to support parents in their role as the primary educators of their children.

MIDTOWN EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION ACHIEVEMENTS & RECOGNITION



For 18 consecutive years, **100% of MEF students have graduated from high school and enrolled in college.**



Of 900 MEF alumni identified in an ongoing study, **91% reported college graduation or current college enrollment.**

- Named **"the most exemplary youth mentoring program in Chicago"** by the Chicago Bar Association and Chicago Bar Foundation's Lend-a-Hand Program.
- Named by Philanthropy Magazine as **"one of sixteen cutting-edge programs . . . doing exceptionally effective work"** in the United States.
- "MEF's Walgreens One-on-One mentoring program is one of our first Gold Star Awardees, **in recognition of their fully best practice program – absolutely exemplary. But the secret sauce has to be the family-like atmosphere created by the warm and nurturing staff!"** Margie Morris, Executive Director, MENTOR Illinois
- Selected as a 2017 Beneficiary of the 9th Annual Invest for Kids Conference
- Executive Director Glenn Wilke serves on the Board of Directors of Character.org and the Program Leadership Council of the Illinois Mentoring Partnership.



"I spent elementary and middle school being bullied. School was not safe, and I learned to be invisible. When I stepped through the doors of Metro, my hiding was over. I had mentors, tutors and advisors who really cared about me and failure was not an option. They were concerned about the whole me."
 -2016 Metro Graduating Senior, now enrolled at St. Olaf College

FINANCIAL STATISTICS & FACTS

- Total revenue for FY 2017 | **\$3,247,342**
- Total expenses for FY 2017 | **\$3,597,261**
- Estimated value of volunteer hours in FY 2017 | **\$420,910**
- Volunteer-to-staff ratio | **16 to 1**
- Actual cost to serve one child for one academic year | **~\$3,000**
- Metro and Midtown charge a nominal tuition, largely to elicit family commitment.
- **MEF receives virtually no government funding.**

MAJOR CORPORATE & FOUNDATION SUPPORTERS IN FY17

- Aon Foundation
- Bidwill Charitable Foundation
- Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois
- CVS Corporation
- Chicago Bears
- Coca-Cola Company
- Foglia Family Foundation
- Harbor Capital Advisors
- Helen Brach Foundation
- Hollister Incorporated
- Illinois Tool Works, Inc.
- Mullooly Carey Foundation
- Pepsi Beverages Company
- Polk Bros. Foundation
- The Boeing Company
- The Maurice R. and Meta G. Gross Foundation
- Tyson Foods, Inc.
- Walgreens Boots Alliance