

CharityWorks

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Profile of An Achiever Alexander Faunteroy

7th Grade Higher Achievement scholar

Talking with Alexander, you may hear about his ambitions of becoming a software engineer, his interest in music, and even his views on gentrification. What you would never suspect are the challenges that Alex has had to overcome at the young age of 12. Just like the 300 other Higher Achievement scholars, Alex doesn't let those struggles define him. He has the dedication and spark to make his dreams a reality.

Seventh grade is a tough time for most, but especially tough for Alex. He lives with his grandmother and two sisters in Southeast, DC, where drugs and violence are common and not even the schools are safe. At his previous school, Alex knew kids that hotwired cars and dealt drugs. He was bullied and beaten. "I used to have no friends. I was guarded and scared. I just didn't fit in."

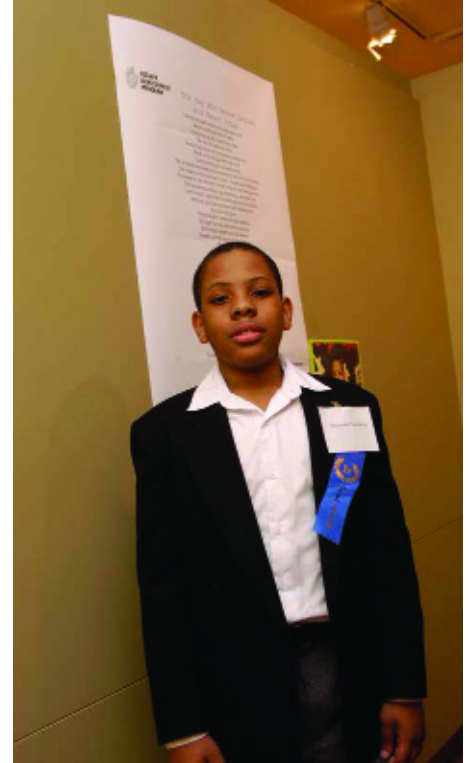
"Higher Achievement might have saved my life. At Higher Achievement, I found people like me. They even helped me get into a better school this year. I may go to George Washington University like my mentor, Mr. John." Higher Achievement will continue to expand Alex's horizons by ensuring that he is accepted into a top high school and by providing annual college visits.

"Higher Achievement sees everything in me – the good and the bad. It helps me improve the good, like my writing, and learn skills to overcome my weaknesses, like how to stay organized and how to take notes. I used to feel like school had nothing to offer and no one would miss me if I wasn't there. At Higher Achievement you know people are looking forward

to seeing you, like my mentor Mr. John who takes time from his studies and his life to work with me. I don't want to let him down by not showing up. I am not saying that Higher Achievement is a piece of cake. The long hours take a lot of dedication and once you are there it takes a lot of energy as you are constantly pushed to work hard, think critically, and do your best."

Alex wrote *The Boy Who Never Smiles and Never Cries* with his mentor's encouragement. "Winning the contest and performing at the events felt SO good. I learned that I can do anything I put my mind to. From the stage I could see my grandma, Mr. John, my fellow scholars, and the

(continued on page 7)



Alexander Faunteroy

CharityWorks 2006 Partner Higher Achievement Program

In the most powerful city in the most powerful country in the world, 35 percent of teens live below the poverty line and 50 percent quit school before earning a diploma. Despite living in the shadows of the Nation's Capital, many of these youths face a life of substance abuse, unemployment and an ineffective public school system.

The Higher Achievement Program reverses the odds by offering 9 to 14 year olds in Washington's most distressed neighborhoods a chance a great education. This year more than 300 children will attend 650 hours of after-school and summer programs to prepare them to attend one of the top

high schools in the area.

The success of The Higher Achievement Program is now recognized by community leaders across the nation. Higher Achievement is in the process of developing a pilot program to be duplicated in other communities.

The program's commitment to positive outcomes has transformed the at-risk kids of yesterday into the doctors, teachers and business leaders of today. For the rest of the year, each CharityWorks' newsletter will have a Profile of An Achiever to introduce our donors and volunteers to some of the amazing kids participating in The Higher Achievement Program. ■

From the Chair

Dare to dream of a world where every family has a home; where every child is safe from crime, drugs and abuse; where every high school graduate attends college; and where education is a right not a privilege – CharityWorks does.

We dare; we turn dreams to realities for our partners; we transform non-profits and the lives they touch. Last year alone, CharityWorks touched the lives of over 1,500 families and distributed close to a million dollars to support after-school and summer

programs in ten under resourced neighborhoods in DC; to aid in the purchase of a blood mobile providing life saving supplies to low-income children; and to help open a charter school.

CharityWorks' dream of making a difference has also become a reality. That sunny day when a group of friends got together to create our organization was just six years ago. We never dreamed that in such a short time we could distribute more than 4.5 million dollars; build a home for a single mother and her daughter; purchase twenty plots of land for low-income housing, send 24 local foster teens to college for four years; open and expand literacy programs for more than 2,600 elementary school children; expand after-school and summer programs to benefit over 2,000 elementary and middle school children; help finance a second campus for a charter school; and expand the impact of a school in what 20/20 called "the worst street in America."

CharityWorks is now a recognized philanthropic force in the Metropolitan area. Non-profits count on us to turn to reality dreams of expansion programs. Families and



children depend on us to finance education programs, to help with the American dream of owning a home and to enhance health programs.

None of these, however, would be possible without the continued support of donors, advisory board members and volunteers. They are the heart and soul of CharityWorks – the ones who make it possible; the ones who make it happen.

The Higher Achievement Program, our partner this year, dreams of 500 low-income students, in

grades 5 thru 8, getting a chance at a great education and admission to one of the top high schools in the area. Instead of failing in school, spending time with gangs on the streets, or getting in trouble with the law, students are learning higher-order math, conducting science experiments and studying literature. By the end of the eighth grade, the dream becomes a reality for more than 75 percent of the students when they receive a letter of acceptance to a prestigious private or public high school.

The year ahead promises to be another one for the record books. There is a lot of work ahead of us, but the rewards will be magical. Alexander Faunteroy wrote: "I am a boy who never smiles and never cries. Never smiles and never frowns." CharityWorks' challenge this year is to raise more funds than ever to provide the children enrolled in the Higher Achievement Programs with the tools they need to have a bright future and, hopefully, a smile. ■

Development

Statistics show that a child's developmental standing at the end of the eighth grade determines if he or she will go to college. The middle school years are the last, best chance for real academic success.

Homelessness, temporary shelters, parents working multiple jobs make it difficult for children to achieve academic success and overcome the negative cultural stigmas and hostile peer pressures this success often causes.

Yet, in classrooms round the city, Higher Achievement scholars experience high-impact emotional, social, physical and intellectual development. Students enrolled in The Higher Achievement Program are breaking the cycle of poverty, are becoming productive members of the work force, are attending college. The cost of this success is just \$3,000 per year per student.

CharityWorks is committed to increase the number of students attending The Higher Achievement Program to 500. An ambitious goal, but certainly achievable with the support of our Advisory Board, our donors and our volunteers. We will be staging three major events that are some of the best attended, most successful fundraisers in the Washington area. – a Fashion Show, a Vintage Wine Tasting and a Dream Ball. For information on how you can make a difference by becoming a sponsor, please call the CharityWorks Office at 703.286-0758 or Marge Odeen at 561.691-1819.

Our best year, our biggest challenges, are still ahead; but we are off to a good start. We are grateful to the following individuals and corporations who have already pledge their support:

Amanter Fund/Gabriela and Doug Smith
America Online
BAE Systems/Mary Ann and Mark Ronald
Adrienne and Peter Barris
BearingPoint/Terry and Robin Lineberger
Alisa and Thomas Beyer
Leslie and Jeffrey Bialos

Spotlight on Philanthropy

BearingPoint

CharityWorks Vintage Wine Tasting Host Sponsor

Can we get a pic of Robin or Robin and Terry. I can contact Terry if that is ok

For BearingPoint, being successful was, and is, not enough. Of greater importance is the need to truly make a visible and meaningful difference in their community, in their industry, and in the lives of children and families. BearingPoint's accelerated solutions combine deep industry knowledge with technology expertise that bring real,

tangible enterprise value to customers. BearingPoint applies that same knowledge and commitment to finding solutions to help non-profit organizations in our community. Since 2001, BearingPoint and CharityWorks have partnered to support programs transforming lives and giving children and families hope and the tools they need for a successful and bright tomorrow.

Capital One

CharityWorks Dream Ball Host Sponsor



Capital One – a CharityWorks' partner – applies the same principles of innovation, collaboration and empowerment in its commitment to local communities across the country as it does in its business. Capital One recognizes that helping to build strong and healthy communities – good places to work, do business and raise families – benefits each one of us. Capital

One focuses its resources on helping children achieve their dreams of educational access and academic success. And part of that effort involves Capital One's support of Higher Achievement since 2004. Capital One applauds CharityWorks for selecting this incredible organization as its 2006 partner.

Booz Allen & Hamilton
Brand Evolve
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Capitol File
Cardinal Bank/Stacey and Kevin Reynolds
Lucinda and Carlos Garcia
Marcia and Frank Carlucci
Caren Carpenter and Ed Marram
Nancy Casey and Art Marks
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Raytheon International
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Wendy and Mark Stavish
Laura and Peter Unger
Washington Gas/
Anita and William Zeigler
Washington Life/Nancy Bagley and
Saroush Shihabi
Michele and John Welch
WEST*GROUP
Faye and Warren Wickersham
Nina Zolt and Miles Gilburne

As of March 10, 2006

Nothing But Fun!

She membership Social at Star Nut was Fabulous!

Everyone enjoyed the event - with fresh baked treats, nuts, gelato, specialty coffee drinks and sweets, not to mention the wine! But most of all, everyone loved the socializing! A wonderful group of women enjoying each other's company!

Thank you all for coming and bringing your friends! We had a fabulous turnout and can hardly wait for the next one!

On the calendar:

"A Little Luck of the Irish"
March 15, 2006 • 6:30 PM
McKeever's Pub in McLean

"Pizza and Pearls"
April 27, 2006 • 3-5 PM
Rocco's in McLean



Terry Lineberger, Ribin Finnell



Sue Falk, Vicky Sabo, Michelle Welsch



???,???, Rena Vakay



Sarah Richmond Reid, April Georgelas



Lisa Lutz



??, Vicky Sabo, Andy Scarmardo, Liv Violette

Updates from the Office

Spring cleaning came early to CharityWorks this year. In January, Leah Gansler and Vicky Sabo valiantly and successfully transformed our offices. After two days of scrubbing and rearranging furniture, both rooms emerged looking remarkably professional and functional. We now have two of our new members manning CharityWorks' office, helping to keep us organized and available to assist members when needed. Susie Henn and Maggie Ranieri recently retired from professional careers. Realizing our need for serious computer help, both women stepped up to split time at the office. They have organized our files, cleaned up our computer and will be on site Mondays through Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Please feel free to stop by and introduce yourself. With these two ladies in place we are hoping to have a "glitch free" 2006. ■

CharityWorks Bylaws

The Bylaws Committee met several times over the last few months to revise, update and edit the existing Bylaws, which were last modified in 2000. Needless to say, the existing Bylaws were well thought out at inception and the proposed changes simply reflect the extraordinary growth and success of CharityWorks' endeavors. Committee members Robin Fitch, Faye Morrissette, Fritz Partlow, Vicky Sabo and Faye Wickersham spent many hours reviewing these documents, which may be found in the Membership Handbook for reference. We would appreciate it if members would review the Bylaws and submit suggestions before the Spring General Meeting, when the membership will be asked to vote on the proposed changes. Contact Faye Morrissette with any questions. ■

Special Events

Anita Zeigler and LindaMay Bucher, co-chairs of Special Events, are thrilled (and grateful) for all the new ideas and locations proposed and used for the General Membership Meetings. In February, thanks to Ken Hardie, General Manager of Neiman Marcus in Tyson's Galleria, we enjoyed an informative and fun-filled meeting. Although members had to show up for the meeting much earlier than usual to accommodate store hours, we had a wonderful turn out. Good food, fabu-

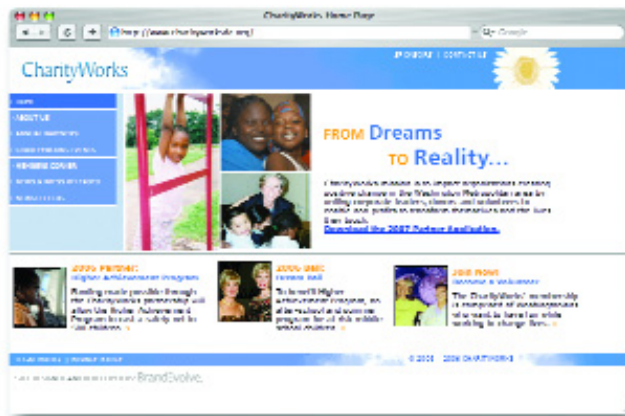
lous fashion, close friends and a worthwhile cause formed the perfect recipe for a wonderful meeting!

The next Membership meeting in May will be hosted by our new member, Diane Brown, Vice President of Tiffany's, with a "Breakfast at Tiffany's" theme. Details will follow, as we imagine the members will look forward to this meeting as well. We would love to hear about new ideas for future locations for our Meetings - and no, they don't have to be in a fabulous store - but that certainly makes it quite festive. ■

Check Out the CharityWorks Web Site www.charityworksdc.org

We are currently working hard on bringing the CW website up to date. Many thanks to BRANDEVOLVE in Leesburg for doing all the real work for us. When you have a chance, please log on to the site. Any suggestions would be appreciated. For instance: should we include more information? Is the format easy to follow? Does it reflect the organization properly? Are links readily accessible? Can you navigate easily from one section of the site to another?

We are considering a new section for PROSPECTIVE OR POTENTIAL MEMBERS. This would list some of the projects a new member might want to work on, such as the Fashion Show or the Gala Committee. We would also like to say that CharityWorks is looking for creative individuals who have a unique idea and know how to run with it to make it happen. But most of all, CharityWorks would like members who want to MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES IN OUR AREA. ■



Light Up the Night

Well, that time of the year is upon us as our efforts turn to our annual committee meetings on Decorations for CharityWorks. Numerous bright ideas are in the works for the Dream Ball. The theme, Shadows to Light, promises some dramatic presentations that will feature black, white and gold color schemes. Some of the magic and shimmer will be provided by an assortment of beautiful candles in all shapes and sizes. So pull out all those unused candlesticks - brass, silver, crystal or wooden - and we will find

The theme, Shadows to Light, promises some dramatic presentations that will feature black, white and gold color schemes.

a place for them to shine. We'll try to put the twinkle and glimmer in our fantastic evening Dream Ball. More to come at our kickoff meeting in April.

A summertime event is also being planned in conjunction with the Higher Achievement Program. We are coordinating with HAP to meet their needs for a workshop that would support their program and are looking forward to the chance to actually work one on one with the children. It should be an extraordinarily rewarding day.

We are considering other projects -- such as decorating a dog house, a holiday tree or even a quilt -- and need the talents of CharityWorks' volunteers. For the past two years, the special project members have created a doll house and a holiday tree to be auctioned at the Dream Ball. It is a great feeling to see our efforts bring funds to support our partner. Let's have fun while raising funds -- just email Kay Walsh at Graphickay@aol.com to be a part of this dynamic group.

Let the sunshine in! ■

Third Annual Vintage Wine Tasting

The CharityWorks 100 Point Vintage Wine Tasting will be held on Friday May 19, 2006 at the home of Joe Robert and hosted by BearingPoint, Inc.

We have stayed with our formula that has made this one of the hottest tickets of the season - an amazing home, wines that are the best of the best, fabulous food paired with the wine by DC's hottest chefs - in order to benefit a terrific cause. In addition, we have added some new wrinkles that we believe will make this year's event the best ever!!! Special thanks to Joe Robert, who has generously donated his home in McLean for this year's event.

This year we will feature wines rated 100 Points by Wine Spectator, the world's most widely read wine publication. The Wine Spectator database includes over 155,000 wines, yet fewer than 75 have been deemed worthy of 100-point ratings. Our special guest wine expert is Thomas Matthews, Executive Editor of Wine Spectator, who will share his unique insights about the wines. Featured Wine Spectator 100 Point Wines hail from many different regions of the world (not just



France!!) and we have had to search the entire world to locate these rare and wonderful wines. Wines to be offered include:

- Chateau Latour - Pauillac 1990
- Chateau Mouton-Rothschild - Pauillac 1982
- Chateau Margaux - Margaux 1995
- Bryant Family - Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley 1996
- Gaja - Langhe Costa Russi 2000
- Tenuta Dell'Ornellaia - Toscana Masseto 2001
- Fonseca - Vintage Port 1977
- S.A. Huet - Vouvray Cuvee Constance 1997

Each of the food courses will be paired with specially selected Wine Spectator wines and once again will be donated and prepared by some of DC's most renowned

chefs. Enjoy the amazing culinary and visual delights as these chefs prepare each course before your eyes at the best chef's table in town! Check out some of the chefs who will be with us this year:

- 2941 - Jonathan Krinn
- Maestro - Fabio Trabocchi
- Notti Bianchi / Dishe - Tony Chittum
- Circle Bistro - Brenden Cox
- Charlie Palmer Steak - Bryan Voltaggio
- Asia Nora - Haidar Karoum
- Zola - Frank Morales

A hearty thank you to our Presenting Sponsors: PricewaterhouseCoopers, James V. Kimsey, Ted & Lynne Leonsis, 118 Foundation/Phillip & Caren Merrick.

Partner Selection

Another year is well underway, and we are very excited about the buzz around the selection of the 2007 CharityWorks partner. The selection is one of the most important and difficult decisions we make, and it is the heart and soul of our organization.

Please encourage organizations transforming the lives of families and children to apply. The 2007 Partner Application can be downloaded from the CharityWorks' webpage, www.charityworksdc.org.

Please mark the Partner Selection dates on your calendar:

May 1st

2007 Beneficiary Application Deadline

May 9th and 10th

9 am to 3 pm
Review applications to select 10 organizations for oral presentations

June 6th, 7th and 8th, 9 am to 3 pm
Oral presentations to select 5 organizations to present to the General Membership.

September 12th, 9 am to 2 pm
Oral presentations to select 3 organizations to present to the Advisory Board

September 26th, 4:00 pm
Advisory Board Meeting to select the 2007 CharityWorks Partner

To volunteer or for information please call April Hess at 703.486-2035 or Jeanne Reid at 703.821-1383. ■

Nordstrom Fashion Show

The Nordstrom Design Preview Fashion Show is one of CharityWorks' most anticipated events of the year.

The elegant Corcoran Museum will play host to the event starting at 6:00 pm on Tuesday, June 20th. The evening will begin with a cocktail reception, followed by a rare treat - a New York-style runway show featuring the best of upcoming American and European designer fashions - many of which will be available for us to try on and purchase after the show or at Nordstrom the next day. A lovely dessert buffet and more socializing wraps up the evening.

The event is always a sellout and attendance will be limited this year to 300 people. Tickets are \$125.00 each. Please contact Meredith LaPier, Event Chair, at 703-734-4714, or the CharityWorks office with any questions. ■

(Profile of An Achiever, continued from page 1)

staff. Having all these people around me made me feel like I can never fall and even if I did, someone would be there to help me get up."

For 30 years, Higher Achievement has served more than 10,000 eager, bright children like Alex. Higher Achievement's waiting lists are full of potential success stories, but those stories will be unrealized and untold unless the program can reach more children. With CharityWorks' support, Higher Achievement will help more students to develop their academic potential, expose them to better opportunities, and ensure brighter futures.



Alexander Faunteroy

The Boy Who Never Smiles and Never Cries

by Alexander Faunteroy

I used to know the boy who never
smiles and never cries
Never smiles and never frowns
Sometimes up and sometimes down
But still he does not smile.
Perfect boy at school the teachers
would say
Never in his life got less than an A
Then he met a girl named Sandy
She had dropped her books and he
wanted to be a little bit handy
She looked at him and said I think I
should say thank you
He looked at her and said I think I
should say thank you too
But why would you say thank you,
what did I do?
I guess for the smile you put on my face
And how you filled my heart with so
much hopefulness and grace

They started to walk and talk together
Through the rain and stormy weather
And always smooth just like leather

Smooth sailing always on the right sea
Made her a rap
Ending you can't see me
But I saw her, and I knew her
I was always talking to her

But all good things come to an end
I can't believe I just lost my girlfriend
She told me she was with another guy
So I sit there thinking why did I ever try?
So I sit there like I am stupid and I
start to cry
So I am sitting there looking down
And it starts to rain, making puddles
on the ground
For the first time I saw my real reflec-
tion that
Looked like a frown
So a door started to open that could
not be closed
What was inside? No one knows
Except for the boy who sometimes
smiles and
Sometimes cries
Sometimes smiles and sometimes frowns
So there, the person inside of all of us
As all of you should see
For the boy in my poem used to be me.

2006 Dream Ball Auction

The Dream Ball Auction Committee is in full swing! "Shadows to Light" is a perfect theme since we want to "see" NEW and EXCITING items. Did you know that that the live and silent auction raises at least 25% of our goal? Your help, large or small makes a HUGE difference and every item counts!

We need your influence with area vendors. We'll do the work, if you supply contact information and new ideas, we'll make the calls. Please visit our website, www.charityworks-dc.org, or contact the CharityWorks Office at 703.286-0758 or Faith Shah

at 202.223-6001 (fshah@shah-shah.com) to alert us to desirable items. Download those auction forms and fill them out for all kinds of goodies: vacation stays, exciting travel adventures, spa treatments, shopping, dining, sporting/theatre events, home improvement, creative baskets and more!!!

Attention new CharityWorks members: Our meetings are fun and efficient and we welcome you to join and be a part of the heart of CharityWorks' fundraising efforts. It's a fabulous way to get down to the business of making dreams come true

at HAP. Sometimes people say they don't volunteer for auctions because they don't want to ask for items. Not to worry – there's plenty of work for your other talents! Many hands make light work. Did I mention that we have FUN?

Please take a moment to write down your favorite items - what would you like to see - more important - what gets those bid numbers flying? Send us an e-mail or call with comments and questions. Many thanks and see you at the Ball ! ! ! ! ■

CharityWorks Advisory Board

Fernando Murias, *Co-Chair*
Mark Ronald, *Co-Chair*
Leah Gansler, *Founder*

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Sandra Aresti
Fred Bollerer
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Pamela Sorenson
Todd Stottlemyer
Sally Sullivan
Emily Talley
Sylvia von Bostel
John Welch
William Zeigler

Grants Program

CharityWorks is pleased to announce that the Advisory Board approved the CharityWorks Grants Program. This grant program would be funded with 10 percent (up to \$100,000) of the proceeds of the 2007 fundraising efforts and individual grants would not exceed \$15,000.

The Grants Program will be completely independent of the Partnership Selection process; although the applicants' missions must still be the improvement of the quality of life for children and families in the Washington

metropolitan area. One of the goals of the program is to involve more of our membership in community outreach; another is to support startup programs or organizations with smaller needs than the annual Partner.

The grants application will be simpler than the Partner Selection Application and will be available beginning August, 2007. The first award will be announced in March 2008. For information or to work on the Grants Program, please contact Jeanne Reid at 703.821-1383. ■

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