



Youth Development & Work Ethic Programs

GRATITUDE REPORT

2009/2010

As we reflect on this year and more broadly on our fifteen years of service, we feel a profound sense of gratitude for all of you. We could not have dreamed of the growth, success and acceptance of our programs. Without the Community Bike Works' family of donors, volunteers, friends, staff and children, we would not accomplish the rewarding work we do.

Community Bike Works provides inner-city children living in at risk situations with meaningful work ethic alternatives to gangs, drugs and the streets. Community Bike Works use bicycles, peer role models and adult mentors to engage youth nine to seventeen years of age; and once engaged, influence their behavior and their outlook about school and life.

Highlights

- 84.7% of the children who began the three month Earn A Bike course completed it
- Volunteers gave over \$50,000 worth of time
- 66% of the children in the Reading Program increased reading level 1 to 4 grades

Making a Difference One Child at a Time...

Eleven year old "Maggie" struggled to learn fractions. As a youth volunteer she must divide her hours in half because half are for volunteering and half are for earning. We often went over the hours she worked and how to divide them. One day in school her class was studying dividing fractions. A light went on as she raised her hand to tell her teacher, "It's like my hours at Community Bike Works!" and she was able to answer the questions.

Trying to fit in, "Rodney" loudly bragged about being a Blood, though he was not. After many unproductive conversations explaining the dangers of falsely professing gang membership, we asked "Jose", a former Latin King, to talk with "Rodney". "Jose" brought a Blood with him. Gang "code of conduct" requires the Blood to beat up anyone falsely claiming to be a Blood. The gang member agreed to discuss the consequences of "Rodney's" statements without becoming violent. The encounter made a noticeable impact on "Rodney's" behavior.

As a child, "Dubak" received many treatments for kidney failure that caused discoloration of his teeth. He wore a surgical mask his first two years of high school and constantly avoided smiling or talking to others. Through the generosity of a local dentist and our volunteers, "Dubak" got new front teeth for Christmas; and he has blossomed into a great volunteer.

"Theresa" had low self esteem due to being teased in Elementary School. As a teenager, this resulted insecurity and callousness toward others. Recently, she wrote about how the teasing had affected her. She wrote that the teasing kids were wrong about her and that she realized this because she had met so many people at Bike Works who cared about her. "Theresa" has tried many new things, much of which involves meeting new people, giving tours, teaching kids, and speaking in front of small groups. Her confidence has sky rocketed!

Two years ago "John" was referred to Community Bike Works. He needed a bicycle to find and keep a job. He had lost everything and was homeless. Our kids fixed up a bike and gave it to him. Recently, he returned with the bike and told us that he wanted to donate it back. He had been able to get and keep a job, using the bike as his transportation. He had been so successful that he was able to buy himself a car and no longer needed the bike. His life had changed by having the bike and he was able to rebuild his life.

A guidance counselor at McKinley Elementary School remarked that there has been a noticeable improvement in "Matt's" behavior since he began coming to Bike Works a year ago.

"Chico" signed up for Earn a Bike three times. The first two times he was unable to finish because he got in trouble; once on house arrest and once in juvenile detention. The third time, he finished with perfect attendance and continues to participate in our programs.

New Pilot Programs

We began using **Magic Workshops** to teach life lessons. Professional magician Philip La Porta performed magic shows in November and March with one planned in July. Each show was followed by a magic workshop the next week. The workshops were led by La Porta, Peter Majkowski, Jen Goss and David Rosenblatt. The first workshop demonstrated that in life, how you do or say something is often more important than what you do or what you say and that most worthwhile things in life take effort, patience and perseverance; the second workshop stressed the importance of following directions and creativity.

A **Financial Literacy Course** sponsored by Dun & Bradstreet was introduced in the Fall and was conducted twice. The classes span five weeks and teach budgeting, credit cards, debts, banks, savings and credit worthiness. Pre and post tests are used to measure progress.

Earn a Bike Program

Two hundred and thirty six youths were in Earn a Bike classes this year. All the kids signed a contract committing to at least 24 hours of instruction in mechanics and safe riding skills. 84.7% percent of the kids who started the Earn a Bike classes and chose a bike completed the three and one half month sessions. All the graduates demonstrated knowledge of basic tool use and bicycle mechanics by passing practical and written evaluations. All demonstrated safe riding skills by passing a road test.

Fifty percent of our participants are referred by teachers, counselors and juvenile probation. Of the 236 Earn a Bike participants, 78% were male and 22% were female. The ethnic breakdown was: 12% Afro American, 25% Caucasian, 62% Hispanic and 1% Asian. Sixty percent of the children have a female head of household.

Earn A Bike Participants By Age

<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>
23%	18%	17%	14%	10%	8%	5%	4%	1%

Earn a Part Program

Kids earned a total of 333 parts.

Peer Apprentice and Peer Instructor Programs

Thirteen youths taught an Earn a Bike class and volunteered during dropins. Two youth were advisors to the board of directors. Five were paid apprentices.

Reading & Homework Program

Forty three kids participated in two, three month long reading programs. Results from the three month reading program show the following changes in reading levels: 22% increased one grade level, 28% increased two grade levels, 11% increased three grade levels and 16% increased four grade levels.

Community Bike Shop

More than 300 youths participated in various activities. These activities included: repairing and donating bikes to Catholic Charities Immigrant Program, inspecting bikes at derbies and bikeathons, street cleaning, and presentations for various civic and neighborhood groups. Our kids repaired and donated over twenty bikes through the Catholic Charities Refugee program.

Volunteer Program

Our volunteers gave over \$50,000 worth of time. Seven volunteers completed the Instructor Training Course. Thirteen youths served as instructor aides.

THANK YOU to all the volunteers who made the success of our programs possible: Kaitlyn Bealer, Marshall Boyer, Jeff Blinder, Dan Brickman, Sajaylis Bueno, Sam Campano, Kat Cancelino, Angelica Canepos, Kate Cartwright, Gary Cather, Nina Colangel, Arianna Counsman, Jacinda Chislum, Katherine Christ, Samantha D'Arrigo, Natalia Dial, Mike Duncan, Shalon Easterling, Dave Engle, Heidi Emers, Habib Faye, Aaron Fleming, Bethany Gagas, David van der Goes, Denise Hamilton, Ken Harvey, Shawn Hauck, Jack Helffrich, Angela Hess, Krissy Hines, Emily Joyner, Tarin Kassover, Melissa Keen, William Keller, Tabby King, Claire Klatchak, Mike Klatchak, Scott Kleinschuster, Taylor Lee, Andalisa Lopez, Peter Mattiuz, Laura McGrath, Gail McMakin, Elizabeth McNerney, Nathan Menendez, Jessica Miller, Nicole miller, Nick Mittica,, Heather Moody, Anthony Morrison, Mike Nagle, Marty Nothstein, Chris O'Neill, Danielle Novak, DJ Nudy, Kaitlin Oswald, Anvi Pate, Carolyn Patterson, David Patterson, Ashley Porter, Brianna Powell, Tom Pritchard, Art Raymond, Terry Reese, Donna Remaly, Abie Rubin, Charles Russell, Dan Sautter, Katie Sarishohn, Joan Schork, Bill Seaman, Colleen Shea, Emmanouel Skoufos, Alyssa Slinger, Samantha Smith, Lauren Summers, Jay Tanner, Robert Takacs, Brit Tavello, Dennis Whitman, Caitlin Wileman, Clifford Yezefski and Laura Zharakis.

Continuing Participation

Children continue to come to Community Bike Works after earning a bike, as instructors, aides and participants in drop in days. Eighty four percent of our children completed the three month long Earn a Bike program. Of the children who earn a bike, 40% percent return for other CBW activities.

The Future

Community Bike Works was recognized as an "innovative educational program" Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in January Of 2010. Currently, we provide after school programming at South Mountain Middle School, Central Elementary School and Roosevelt Elementary school. We are looking to expand our involvement in the Allentown School District and exploring the possibility of becoming an elective course with the schools.

THANKS to all our contributors. The list includes gifts received between July 1, 2009 and June 30, 2010.

We regret any errors or omissions. Please notify us of such.

Medal Partners \$20,000-\$34,999

Air Products Foundation (Capital Grant) Trexler Trust (Capital & Program) United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley

Rainbow Jersey Club \$10,000-19,999

Anonymous (Capital Grant) Community Development Block Grant, Allentown

CBW Champion \$5000-9,999

Air Products Foundation Donley Foundation Highmark Blue Shield
Iron Pigs Charities Just Born Rider Pool Foundation

Guiding Cycle \$2000-4,999

Walter & Alma Bastian Foundation The Century Fund Lucille F Driver Fund
Donald & Alice Farquharson Fund Foresters Branch Lehigh Holt Family Foundation
Sylvia Perkin Perpetual Charitable Trust

Rotating Wheel \$1000-1,999

Asbury United Methodist Church Barry Coles & Robin Deily Dun & Bradstreet
Keystone Nazareth Charitable Foundation Lehigh Valley Educators Credit Union Muhlenberg College Chapel
PPL Corporation Rotary Club of Allentown St. John's UCC (6th & Walnut)
In Memory of Albert L Strunk Wachovia Wells Fargo Foundation Robert C Wood

Sustaining Hub \$500-999

In the Name of George P. Burdell David & Kathy Leber Lehigh Valley Health Network
Harry F Lukens Vince Lynott & the Men of St Thomas More Church Walmart

Supporting Spoke \$100-\$499

Advance Reality Services	Allentown Area Swing Dance Society	Anonymous
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Olympus	Phi Sigma Sigma Sorority	PREP for Success
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In Honor of Nancy Adams	Joanne Bronars	Fabian Brugger
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Conny & Robert Ricci	Robert Sherwood	Alan & Maria Tjeltveit
George & Kathleen Theodorou	Drs Leo & Gregory Todd	Vortex Cycling Club
Carl Widdowson		

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Denise Watkins	Dennis Whitman	Laura Zaharakis				

Corporate & Group In Kind Supporters

Bike Line, Allentown	Cedar Crest College	Dun & Bradstreet	Foresters	Chuck Hamilton Photography
Just Born	Liquid Interactive Media	Muhlenberg College	RCN	Society of Women Engineers
Sodexo	Valley Preferred Cycling Center		Volunteer Center	Holiday Hope Chests

TREK Bicycle Corporation provided over nine thousand dollars in program supplies.

REVENUES July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010

Private	90%
Federal	9%
State	0%
<u>Local</u>	<u>1%</u>
Total	100%

Community Bike Works' audit is conducted by the certified public accounting firm of Campbell, Rappold & Yurasits LLP. Community Bike Works is recognized by the IRS as a charitable nonprofit 501c3 corporation and is registered with the Pennsylvania Department of State, Bureau of Charitable Organizations. Financial Information for CBW may be obtained from the Department of State at 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

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A Special Request from the Executive Director....

Our strength, the one that determines our ability to make a difference, is in **YOU**, our supporting members. Please take a moment now to write a check to help us continue to make a difference in children's lives. Many employers will match your gift. Please check with your personnel office.

Thanks!

Stefan P. Gaslawski

Executive Director

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I will make a difference in a child's life by being part of the Community Bike Work's supporting family. Here's how my donation helps:

- Adopt a child for 1 year (\$1,000)
- Nutritious snacks for 6 months (\$500)
- 1 Month Internet for research (\$75)
- Youth Apprentice's Salary for 3 Months (\$750)
- Replacement Parts for One Class (\$250)
- Repair Stand @ Elementary Schools (\$150)
- One Helmet & Lock (\$50)
- Tires & Tubes for 1 Bicycle (\$25)
- Other

Enclosed is my check made payable to Community Bike Works.

NAME: _____ EMAIL: _____