

Preparing youth

for the **JOURNEY** to

**COLLEGE, WORK & LIFE**



2011/2012 ANNUAL REPORT

**MD**  **COM**

*My Commitment. My Community.*

# Message:

## To Our Communities And Our Many Supporters.

A preschooler attending a kindergarten readiness event. A third grader tutored in literacy skills. A 13-year-old joining a career awareness program. An older teen flexing strong leadership skills on a neighborhood council. A high school senior learning about financial aid for higher education.

MyCom is walking the path with each of these young people as they journey from childhood toward responsible, productive adulthood. MyCom programming is helping inspire literally thousands of local youth, preparing them for college, work and life.

Our own journey began three years ago, as we worked to build opportunities that address each community's "one-of-a-kind" youth development needs. While our goal is indeed youth development, our strategy to achieve it is to build and connect better-quality organizations that deliver better services.



**Lisa L. Bottoms**  
Program Director  
Human Services and  
Child and Youth Development  
Cleveland Foundation

Early efforts focused on finding those quality partners and working with them to build programs and connect services to communities. As a result, more than 250 public and private community partners in Greater Cleveland have come together to construct an effective, coordinated system to support our young people.

An important part of that effort is the continued adoption of national best practices and a focused effort to create an accountable data system of Efforts to Outcomes (ETO). MyCom's ETO initiatives are not only attracting funding sources; more importantly, they empower our communities with information they can use to fine-tune their programs and amplify their success.

Today, we see the pieces gradually coming together to form a coherent and sustainable system.

By successfully focusing our youth employment efforts on real-world job needs, we are able to equip our youth with skills that will be valued and successful in Cleveland's new economy.

We are engaging the next generation of community leaders through youth engagement and leadership programs that youth not only participate in, but also play an active role in creating.

Working with Starting Point, our lead agency for Out-of-School Time programs, we have funded more than 45 such programs.

In a typical year, MyCom will serve more than 5,500 youth in enriching after-school and summer programs.

We have encouraged academic success, parent involvement and a growing "go-to-college" culture through our School Transitions and College Now programs.

MyCom is coordinating a neighborhood-based approach to services which enables each community to develop programs that are sustainable, that leverage additional resources to serve more youth, and that encourage greater ownership by the community.

And, through advocacy, we have increased and sustained support for youth development strategies at the county, state and national levels.

As we begin work in our fourth year, we will continue to develop the business case that supports our strategy: a "proof of concept" that will enable us to engage new partners, in both the public and private sectors.

It has been a privilege to work along side the eight MyCom communities and the youth of Greater Cleveland. I look forward, along with all our MyCom funders, agencies and neighborhood partners to the continued success of this vibrant youth development movement.

# Starting Out:

## How MyCom's Journey Began.

In 2006, the Cleveland Foundation, working with Cuyahoga County's Family & Children First Council, convened community organizations, government agencies, faith-based groups, businesses and young people to plan a youth development initiative for school age and adolescent youth. That initiative came to be known as MyCom.

After an assessment of neighborhood needs, an analysis of what works nationally, and a review of local expertise, talents, and potential partners, the people of the MyCom network determined areas that would most directly help achieve our goals of stable, prepared young adults in healthy, safe communities.

Those areas are:

- Increasing and enhancing after-school activities and out-of-school time programs
- Preparing students for success in school through school transitions initiatives
- Preparing youth for real-world employment
- Creating programs to develop our youth as the future leaders of their communities
- Building neighborhood capacity to offer services and support for families

"When we hear that only four of every 10 young people are doing well, and the rest are not hopeful, engaged, or thriving, that's a call to action – not just for parents and teachers, but for the entire community. MyCom connects the community with a web of services, positive experiences, and caring adults to guide youth down the right paths, helping them make healthy transitions in their development and preparing them for the challenges of school, work, and life."



**Ronald B. Richard**  
President & CEO  
Cleveland Foundation

"By targeting our programs on the front end, we can help improve more lives and save money at the same time by avoiding the costs of long-term involvement. You can pay now, or you can pay later, or you can invest now and pay a lot less later."



**Edward FitzGerald**  
Cuyahoga County Executive

# Milestones:

## Where Strategies Meet Progress.

Milestones are markers along a journey's path that help put things in perspective. They not only help you see how far you've come, but they also remind you of how far there is still to go. Over the past two years MyCom has reached many milestones. Many have strategic significance. Others are best expressed as numbers, which you'll see on our Program pages. A third type of milestone takes the form of the stories that surround it. You'll find those stories throughout this Annual Report.

### 6 Implemented Out-of-School Time Strategies

- After-School Campaign
- Provider database—community access, information/referral
- Re-granting to create additional opportunities
- Professional development
- Youth Program Quality Assessment (YPQA) tool for organizations
- Efforts to Outcomes Data System

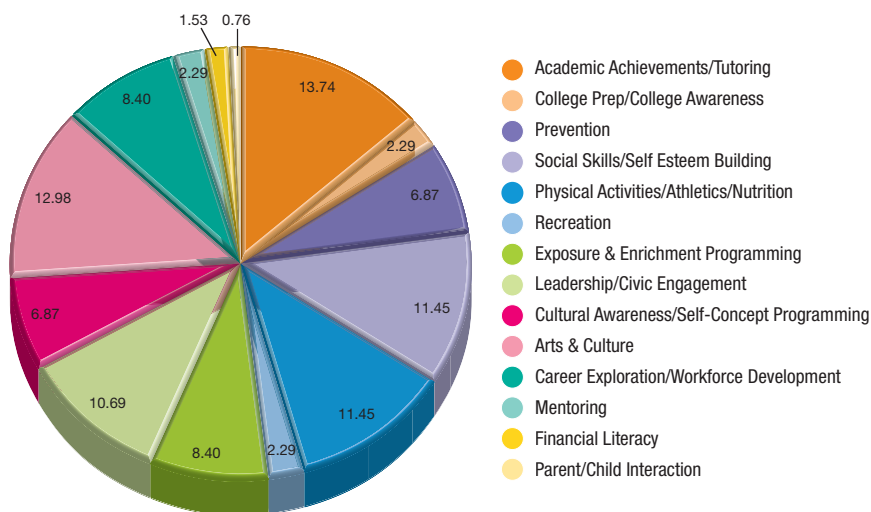
### 7 Implemented School Transitions Strategies

- Early Kindergarten Registration Campaign
- Kindergarten transition checklist
- Kindergarten kit
- Literacy kit
- College visits
- OGT, ACT, SAT Prep
- College Readiness/FAFSA

### 8 Implemented Neighborhood Engagement & Community Outreach Strategies

- Youth Neighborhood Mobilization Teams
- Neighborhood plans
- Neighborhood Directories of Services/Supports
- Efforts to Outcomes Data System
- Neighborhood system— "No Wrong Door"
- Community service
- Fundraising
- Youth Councils

**Out-of-School Time Programs**



# Highlights:

## Efforts to Outcomes (ETO)

The incorporation of ETO discipline into MyCom programs is an ongoing process. Our pilot with Bellaire-Puritas was completed and efforts now turn to replicating the Out-of-School Time components to include 46 additional collaborative sites. The goals of a coordinated ETO data system as demonstrated by MyCom lead agencies, Neighborhood Leadership Institute and Starting Point are to:

- Increase communication between neighborhood youth serving organizations and other communities, in order to provide greater support and increased opportunities for sharing best practices and to improve program quality
- Gain access to real-time data to better inform decisions
- Identify which programs youth are engaged with and allow program providers to review the unique program mix for participants
- Allow MyCom neighborhoods to identify successful program delivery models and quickly determine if there is a need or gap in service delivery
- Improve the coordination of services, both reducing program duplication and increasing program referrals

## 5 Implemented Youth Employment Strategies

- Youth Employment Campaign
- Youth job preparation training
- Working with employers for summer/year round jobs
- Registration for summer jobs
- Administering summer jobs programs

## 6 Implemented Youth Engagement & Leadership Strategies

- MyCom Youth Leadership Academy
- MyMedia–digital/media, story telling
- MyVoice–radio show
- Youth philanthropy
- MyCom community service
- Youth consultants

## 2 Implemented Advocacy Strategies

- Engage and educate local, state and federal legislators about the importance of youth development
- Train and educate young people, families and service providers, to be able to advocate at all levels about the importance of youth development

## Youth Employment in Manufacturing

MyCom and MAGNET—the Manufacturing Advocacy and Growth Network—are exploring ways to provide better education for career opportunities in manufacturing. Like MyCom’s work with Northeast Ohio Health Science & Innovation Coalition, our manufacturing initiative with MAGNET will focus on creating a pipeline of workers whose skills match the needs of industries in greater Cleveland, now and in the future.

## Youth Employment in Health and Science

The partnership of MyCom and the Northeast Ohio Health Science & Innovation Coalition (NOHSIC) seeks to better prepare our future workers for positions in the healthcare industry through work experiences for youth within our system of healthcare providers, as well as through co-op opportunities and internships with civic and government leaders, and stronger and more deliberate marketing efforts. A few of the program highlights include:

- NOHSIC conducted community presentations to middle-school MyCom neighborhood students focused on engaging their interest in healthcare careers.
- NOHSIC systems collectively hired more than 3,000 youth in job shadows, paid and unpaid internships.
- NOHSIC designed a cross-system Patient Care Nursing Assistant pathway program.

# Out-of-School Time

MyCom helps students connect to learning opportunities in our communities that take place outside of the classroom.

## Lead Agency: Starting Point

While it may not seem that way to a kid, by the age of 18 a child will have spent only 13% of their waking hours in school. Much of his or her socialization and skills needed for adulthood are learned and practiced in the 87% of time spent outside of school.

Starting Point takes an innovative approach to serving our youth by expanding programs that already exist in order to address neighborhood needs such as crime prevention, improved school performance, and workforce readiness.



To help fill the gap in arts programming due to cutbacks in public school budgets, youngsters in the West Park neighborhood participated in paper making workshops at the Art House. These programs teach kids to think critically and creatively.

### Highlights:

2,579 youth were served in after-school programs during the 2011-2012 school year. Based on lessons learned from the implementation of MyCom's Out-of-School Time (OST) component, Cuyahoga County's Family and Children First Council adopted the model to expand OST programming under the Family and Civic Engagement Program to 10 additional neighborhoods using school districts as the neighborhood leads; the result was an additional 1,399 youth served.

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### Program Participation

The number of youth participating in an OST Program between the hours of 3:00 pm-6:00 pm during the 2011-2012 school year was 2,670—that's 2,670 kids with positive alternatives during the hours of the day with the highest percentage of serious violent crime committed by juveniles (Fight Crime: Invest in Kids).

### MyCom's ability to expand programs results in savings for Cuyahoga County.

The real, annual cost for 1 child in a program can be \$4,320.  
MyCom cost for 1 child: \$459.18.  
That's a savings of \$3,860.82 per child, per year.

### MyCom fills the gaps

left by other funding partners who are supporting proven, community-based youth programs. These partners cover the base costs—like having the lights on, using a gym, personnel—and MyCom funds whatever "gap" would make it possible to open up those resources to more neighborhood youth.

### Professional Development leads to greater youth opportunity.

A total of 952 youth workers attended Professional Development training (many adults attended sessions more than once). In addition, the program itself undergoes a continuous improvement process that includes self-assessment, program quality improvement planning, and training for the adults who are responsible for providing positive interactions and engaging learning experiences for our youth.

Youth Program Quality Assessment (YPQA) is an ongoing process that helps identify best practices in our delivery of quality programming for youth. We use the tools of YPQA in a cycle of assessment, planning and improvement for our programs in order to provide optimal youth development experiences.

# School Transitions

MyCom is my connection for moving successfully through school.

**Lead Agency: Cleveland Public Library (July 2011-December 2011)**

**Lead Agency: Starting Point (January 2012-ongoing)**

Getting from kindergarten to college and beyond can seem like an insurmountable task, unless you take it in manageable steps. That's why the lead agencies have been focused on making those steps easier. This component has been integrated into Out-of-School Time. This transition support improves future school performance and encourages parent involvement.

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## Focus on College Readiness

College Now helps MyCom youth plan for and pay for college. College Now brings its services to MyCom communities through the branches of the Cleveland Public Library and community recreation centers. This highly successful program reaches out to middle school and early high school students to help them create and plan for education after high school. Now in its 45th year, College Now has a proven record of helping students and their families develop a "go-to-college" culture, plan for it and obtain scholarships and grants to make it happen.

College Now awards about \$2 million each year in need-based, last dollar scholarships.

## Cleveland State University (CSU) Tutoring

As an extension of a grant from the Cleveland Public Library, MyCom third graders received tutoring from CSU students to help with their transition into fourth grade. In total 211 youth benefited from volunteers who provided more than 1,526 hours of tutoring.

## Highlights:

327 youth of various ages and school grades served.

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## Experience Corps, 2011-2012

Experience Corps volunteers tutored 1,020 students in reading to prepare them for academic success, including many students sponsored by MyCom. The program, through Greater Cleveland Volunteers, focuses on third graders, since students not reading at grade level going into fourth grade are more likely to drop out.

## Shiloh Café Summer Transitions Program

Many MyCom programs help students with tough transitions. Shiloh Middle School in Parma is home to the Shiloh Café, where kids combine academic support with enrichment activities such as cooking classes, music, drama, art and sports. Shiloh Middle School has four elementary schools feeding into it, so during the summer session the Shiloh Café has created transitioning programs for kids who will enter middle school in the fall. The Shiloh Café also has a transitioning program for eighth grade students moving on to Parma High School. Both programs are designed to help students connect with their new schools and meet new students.



The Café gets kids involved in activities that range from sports to theatre to discussion groups to cooking. Jean Micklewright, project coordinator, enjoys cooking with a student.

# Youth Employment

Building our future workforce, today.

Implementing Lead Agency: Youth Opportunities Unlimited

During the past year, the Cleveland Foundation, Cuyahoga County, City of Cleveland, and Youth Opportunities Unlimited (Y.O.U.) led an initiative to leverage dollars for year-round youth employment and career awareness opportunities. These experiences are providing our youth with the marketable skills potential employers are looking for. By successfully focusing our efforts on real-world job needs, we are able to equip workers who will be successful contributors in Cleveland's new economy.

## Highlights:

### 2011 Summer Employment:

Grade	Percentage
9th	15.6
10th	24.1
11th	25.1
12th	21.4

### 2012 Summer Employment:

Grade	Percentage
Middle School	7.0
9th	18.0
10th	25.5
11th	29.5
12th	13.0
HS Graduates	7.0

## Focus on Healthcare

Cleveland's healthcare providers helped drive our youth employment efforts this past year. Both the Cleveland Clinic and University Hospitals provided employment for our youth, with University Hospitals hiring 15, who worked in five different departments.



Jarod McGee (far left) worked at University Hospitals where he was responsible for managing data, archiving, creating templates and monitoring research projects. The eleventh grader from MC2STEM had the opportunity to shadow a surgeon and learned about surgeons' responsibilities outside the operating room.

**47** youth employed in winter 2010-2011 in a newly developed internship program.

**3,085** youth placed in private sector and subsidized jobs over the last two years, including summers.

**\$2,961,278** in wages earned by youth.

Nikeshia Yarbrough (standing) being supervised by the Poison Control Program Coordinator.





# Youth Engagement and Leadership

MyCom is my connection for keeping our youth engaged in their communities.

**Lead Agency: Partnership For A Safer Cleveland**

The Partnership For A Safer Cleveland (PSC) provides technical assistance and professional development to MyCom partners to aid in planning, implementing programs and leadership experiences, conducting outreach and communications to recruit youth, and developing strategies to retain youth involvement.

## Highlights:

### MyCom Change Agent Fellowship

This August, 29 young people completed the MyCom Change Agent Fellowship (formerly Youth Leadership Academy). This Fellowship is a program for young people to discover, connect and practice with the intention of leading to action. Many of these young people went on to join or continue their work with their MyCom Neighborhood Youth Council; others continue to work on the plans for their neighborhood projects based on the ideas they developed in the Fellowship.

Since the summer of 2010, over 100 young people have successfully completed the MyCom advocacy and leadership training that has exposed them to new people, ideas and opportunities.

### MyMedia Project and MyVoice Radio Show, 2011

PSC took over management of the MyMedia project, which has trained 85 students to report on topics important to their homes, school and streets through a five-session journalism and digital media curriculum. MyMedia was one of only 19 projects nationwide to win the Knight Information Challenge. With PSC's guidance, MyMedia graduates are adding their voices to the public conversation through opportunities like the MyVoice weekly 30-minute radio broadcast on 107.9 FM. The show is by, for and about teenagers, launched by Radio One in partnership with youth leaders, the Cleveland Foundation and Cuyahoga County. MyMedia graduates also attend events like United States Secretary of Education Arne Duncan's visit to East Technical High School on September 7, 2011, when our students had the opportunity to hear the administration's views on school funding, teacher evaluation, and community and parental involvement.



MyMedia and MyCom youth interview Congresswoman Marcia Fudge at a job fair and town hall meeting that connected thousands of job seekers to employers throughout Cuyahoga County, Ohio.

On July 7, nearly 100 people attended an event at the Idea Center to celebrate the success of recent MyMedia graduates. The Cleveland Foundation hosted the screening of videos from the MyMedia youth reporter training.



# Neighborhood Engagement & Community Outreach

Creating a healthy connection in the neighborhood to build strength in the community.

**Lead Agency: Neighborhood Leadership Institute**

The Neighborhood Leadership Institute (NLI) supports neighborhoods in their ability to communicate with partner organizations, and assists them in coordinating their programs more efficiently with their MyCom plans. NLI helped neighborhoods adopt national best practice youth development strategies and implement Social Solutions–Efforts to Outcomes as their data system.

As a result, funding for summer employment opportunities and summer Out-of-School Time programming has continued to increase from non-MyCom sources. And in total, the eight MyCom neighborhoods were able to match and exceed their resource investment from the initiative:

Total Initiative

Resources Provided = \$620,000

Resource Leverage/Match = \$714,500

## Highlights:

### UnitedHealthcare HEROES Grant, 2011

MyCom received a national grant from UnitedHealthcare called UnitedHealthcare HEROES to support neighborhoods in hosting a service learning project over four months. The neighborhoods launched a variety of projects, including youth programming that emphasized good nutrition and physical fitness under the “Healthy Kids–Healthy Communities” banner.

The UnitedHealthcare grant also supported MyCom’s involvement in the 23rd annual Global Youth Service Day. More than 100 selected students from MyCom neighborhoods came together to paint flower pots to benefit HandsOn Bingo programs in senior centers, and plant vegetable seeds to be taken back to their neighborhoods to grow.

### Efforts to Outcomes, 2012

Under the direction of NLI, MyCom is expanding its Efforts to Outcomes (ETO) initiatives. These initiatives are not only attracting new and additional funding sources, but by analyzing the ETO data, communities are able to make informed decisions that lead to the optimization of current programs, and planning for their long-term sustainability.



# Advocacy

MyCom's connection to local, state and national officials amplifies our communities' voices to make sure our needs are heard.

## Lead Agency: Voices for Ohio's Children

Voices for Ohio's Children (VOC) works with various partners to provide government advocacy, communications materials, media relations and training. Through advocacy, MyCom's communities are able to impact changes in public policy that improve health, safety, education, family stability and childcare.

VOC strengthened their MyCom external communications work through the Youth Talk events. VOC registered an average of 54 participants for each event, attracting registrants from approximately 96 different community agencies, school districts and religious organizations. VOC facilitated meetings on topics such as bullying, child brain development, adolescent health, transforming Cleveland through education and after-school programs (attended by Cleveland Superintendent Eric Gordon). At each event VOC shared relevant information about public policy and legislation impacting children and families.

### Highlights:

#### Lobby Day

In preparation for Lobby Day, VOC engaged MyCom partners in advocacy training. They also organized testimony for the state budget.

On Lobby Day, nearly 200 advocates and child-serving professionals gathered in the Ohio Statehouse to meet with policymakers on issues that impact our children. Allison Wallace, Executive Director of the Greater Cleveland Neighborhood Center Association was noted for her compelling testimony in regards to after-school programming.



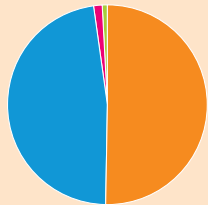
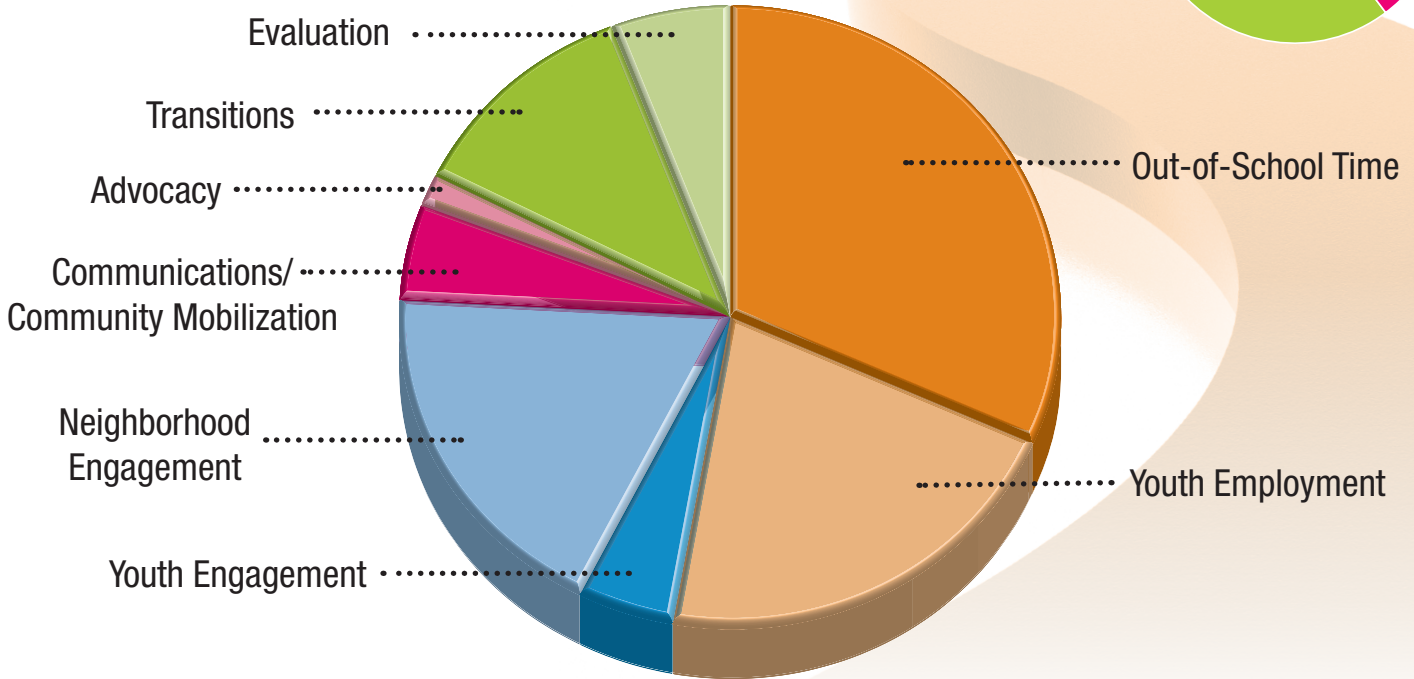
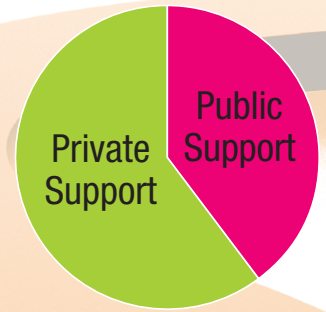
Voices for Ohio's Children is known for bringing together caring adults and professionals to solve challenges for youth. Panelists from the "Making the Systems Work Better" discussion at Voices for Ohio's Children 2011 Children's Health Conference included Tracy Plouck, Director, Ohio Department of Mental Health; Joel Potts, Director, Ohio Job and Family Services Directors' Association; Anthony Trotman, Director, Franklin County Department of Job and Family Services; Tom Scheid, policy consultant for Voices for Ohio's Children; Michael Colbert, Director, Ohio Department of Job and Family Services; and Tim McCartney, COO, Hamilton County Job and Family Services.



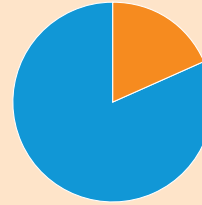
# Statement of Financial Health

October 1, 2010 – September 30, 2011

Total Public Support... \$1,893,000  
 Total Private Support.. \$2,850,468  
 Total Support ..... \$ 4,743,468



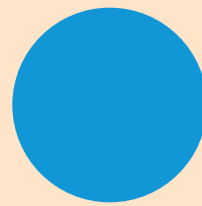
**OUT-OF-SCHOOL TIME** ..... 1,515,000  
 FCFC..... 765,000  
 The Cleveland Foundation..... 720,000  
 (712,500 + 7,500 from youth development fund)  
 Bruening Foundation..... 20,000  
 KeyBank Foundation ..... 10,000



**COMMUNICATIONS/COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION** ..... 245,000  
 FCFC..... 45,000  
 The Cleveland Foundation... 200,000



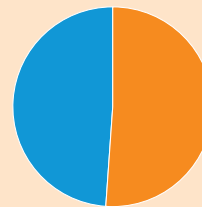
**YOUTH EMPLOYMENT** ..... 1,000,000  
 City of Cleveland..... 500,000  
 Cuyahoga County..... 200,000  
 The Cleveland Foundation..... 300,000



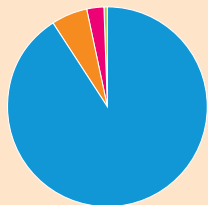
**ADVOCACY** ..... 76,000  
 The Cleveland Foundation..... 76,000



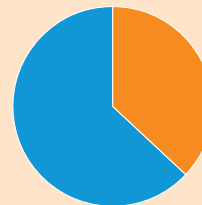
**YOUTH ENGAGEMENT**..... 216,000  
 The Cleveland Foundation..... 200,000  
 UWS ..... 16,000



**TRANSITIONS** ..... 553,000  
 FCFC..... 283,000  
 The Cleveland Foundation... 270,000



**NEIGHBORHOOD ENGAGEMENT** ..... 868,500  
 The Cleveland Foundation..... 790,000  
 (750,000 + 40,000 designated to CMSD)  
 Sisters of Charity ..... 50,000  
 Third Federal ..... 25,000  
 UnitedHealthcare & Youth  
 Service America ..... 3,500

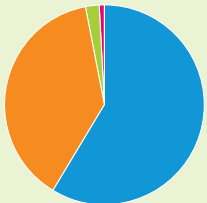
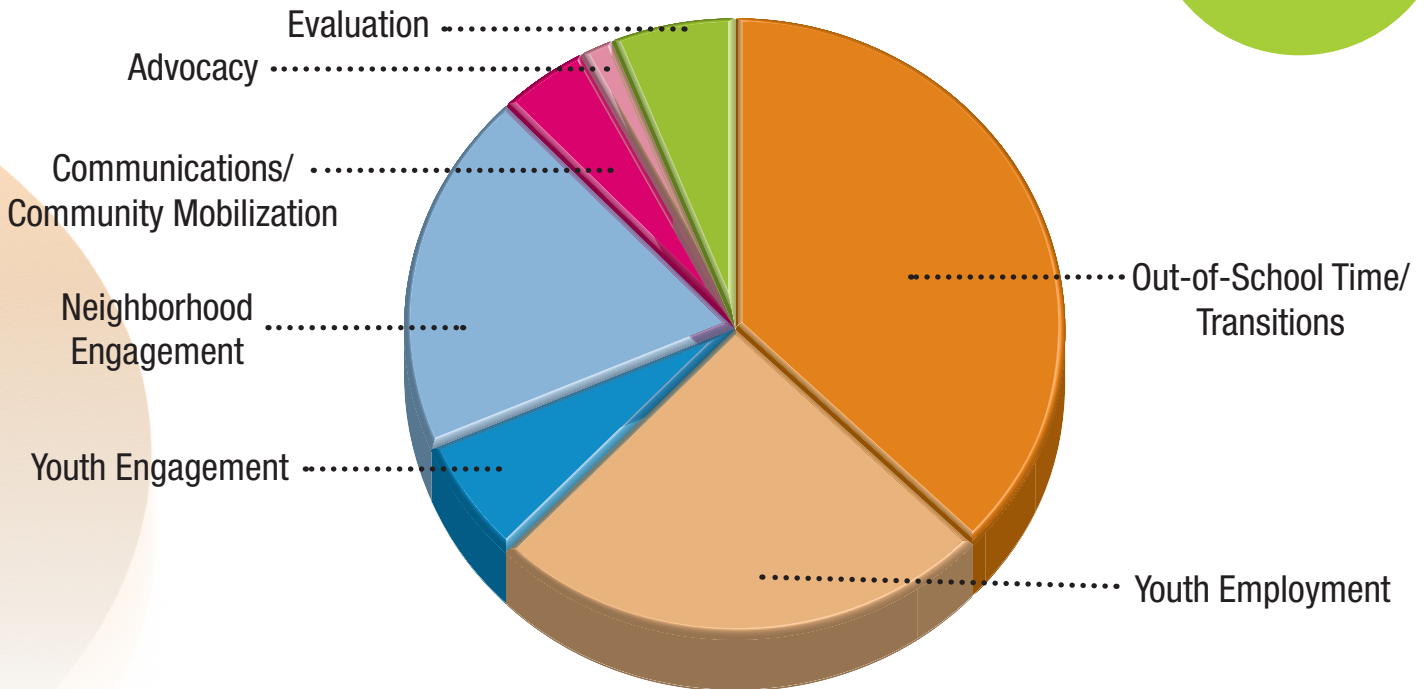
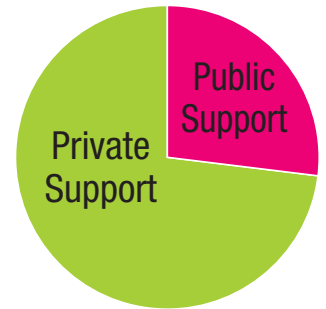


**EVALUATION** ..... 269,968  
 FCFC..... 100,000  
 The Cleveland Foundation... 169,968

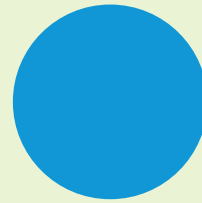
# Statement of Financial Health

October 1, 2011 – September 30, 2012

Total Public Support... \$1,227,750  
 Total Private Support.. \$3,311,968  
 Total Support..... \$ 4,539,718



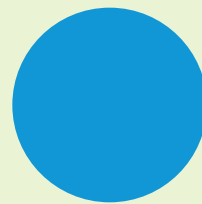
**OST/TRANSITIONS** ..... 1,699,141  
 The Cleveland Foundation..... 1,000,000  
 FCFC..... 647,750  
 Treu-Mart Fund..... 41,391  
 KeyBank Foundation ..... 10,000



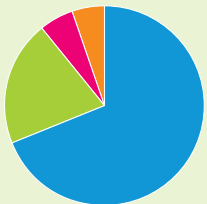
**COMMUNICATIONS/COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION**.....200,000  
 The Cleveland Foundation...200,000



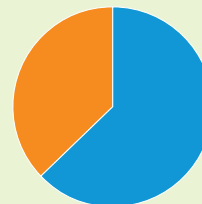
**YOUTH EMPLOYMENT**..... 1,130,000  
 The Cleveland Foundation..... 650,000  
 City of Cleveland..... 480,000



**ADVOCACY** .....76,000  
 The Cleveland Foundation.....76,000



**YOUTH ENGAGEMENT**..... 289,609  
 The Cleveland Foundation..... 200,000  
 Treu-Mart Fund..... 58,609  
 UWS ..... 16,000  
 Knight Foundation..... 15,000



**EVALUATION** .....269,968  
 The Cleveland Foundation... 169,968  
 FCFC..... 100,000



**NEIGHBORHOOD ENGAGEMENT**..... 875,000  
 The Cleveland Foundation..... 825,000  
 Sisters of Charity ..... 50,000

# MyCom's 2011 & 2012 Youth Voice Award Winners

Recognizing individuals who helped make a difference.

It is always difficult to single out a few individuals from the many talented and generous MyCom participants and volunteers. Nevertheless, we were proud to be able to present our Youth Voice Award to these winners in recognition of their actions and examples.



MyMedia and MyCom youth interviewed Susan L. Taylor, Editor-In-Chief Emerita of Essence Magazine & Founder, National Cares Mentoring Movement. She was the keynote speaker at the 2011 annual meeting.

## 2011

### Civic Leaders:

Dr. Scott Frank (Shaker Heights) has been a dedicated, tireless leader in youth health and development. Dr. Frank's involvement in prevention and awareness has positively impacted the lives of countless Shaker youth and families.

Deborah Ratner (ArtWorks) gives generously to Young Audiences of Northeast Ohio as well as many other charities. She demonstrates a kindness of spirit and a love of youth that far exceeds the sum of her donations.

### Youth Leaders:

Darrien Wilkes, Jr. (Benedictine HS) is a member of the Youth Advisory Committee of Cuyahoga County and has been active in youth development efforts countywide for three years.

Tamia Browder (Clara E. Westropp HS) is a youth leader for the CMHA Riverside Park 21st Century Community Learning Center. This award represents recognition by her peers of her caring actions for the welfare of others.

### Caring Adult Leaders:

Jean Micklewright (Parma City Schools) coordinates the Shiloh Café, an after-school program at Shiloh Middle School. On most days, one will find Jean at school at 7:30 am, ready to welcome students at the beginning of the day.

Tyanna Blanchard (High Tech Academy) is a high school coordinator and an advisor for High Tech's Key Club and Ladies First. She is also an adult facilitator for the Youth Advisory Committee of Cuyahoga County.

### Business Leader:

Sharie Renee (Cosmic Bobbins) treats her enterprise as a social movement. She is an entrepreneur, with a visionary business commitment that transcends borders and enthusiastically hires youth.

## 2012

### Civic Leader:

Mayor Frank G. Jackson (City of Cleveland) has a passion for the needs of kids. His vision is to make Cleveland a safe place in which kids can grow and thrive. He actively supports our schools and is working to hold them up as places where kids have positive experiences, while learning and meeting new people who can help them on their life journey.

### Youth Leaders:

Kevaureon Woodfolk (Washington Park Environmental Academy) has been a member of the Broadway Slavic Village youth leadership team for four years. This year he also served as the MyCom intern at Slavic Village Development, and created a MyCom poster that will be displayed in public kiosks, MetroHealth Broadway and the Boys and Girls Club. All while maintaining his studies and pursuing his passion for learning at the Academy.

Kayla Belcher (John Marshall HS) is youth leadership in action. She co-chaired the 3rd Annual West Park MyCom Job and Community Service Fair and is co-leading the event again this year to help train new leadership. She completed training in the MyCom Youth 360 program for youth advocates at the Cleveland Rape Crisis Center, then gave presentations to neighborhood youth and adult audiences. Kayla was the winner of the West Park MyCom scholarship to attend the Urban League of Cleveland's HBCU Tour. She is the captain of the John Marshall drill team and is often on the honor roll.

Corey Bigbee (Max Hayes HS) has exhibited strong leadership skills that have benefited the community. He is a longtime member of the START program, as well as the Bellefaire Street Outreach program and the Q-Team. As a member of these organizations he consistently displays a level of commitment and offers suggestions and ideas to improve conditions and make things more

# 2012 (continued)

effective. He is a compassionate young man who seeks to improve the world around him.

Quenice Sims (Health Careers @ MLK, Jr. Career Campus) is the official Speaker of the Youth Leadership Council, and is often relied upon to offer youth opinions at neighborhood mobilization meetings. She has helped lead the group on service projects including planting flowers at Goodrich-Gannett Neighborhood Center, throwing a Halloween Party for area youth, and joining a younger group of youth on a camping trip. Quenice is outspoken and self-reliant and exemplifies the best qualities of a youth leader.

Da'Vonte Davis (Max Hayes HS) is a member of the ASPR START program, as well as the Q-Team, a partnership of youth and adults whose purpose is to enhance the quality of Out-of-School Time programs. As a Q-team member he has helped the organization grow, while challenging himself to develop his own professional skills. He possesses a rare combination of respect, drive, humility and a strong sense of self-worth. He is an asset to those around him.

Shyaira Thomas (Glenville HS) welcomes the input of all her peers and works hard to implement ideas that come from their collaborative efforts. She helped organize the Third Annual MyCom Youth Festival and was instrumental in the development of the MyCom Teen Center for the St. Clair-Superior community. Although she is fighting a rare form of cancer, she continues to volunteer her time in the MyCom Thanksgiving and Christmas food basket giveaway for the elderly. She is also captain of her softball team at Glenville High School. An outspoken advocate against bullying, Shyaira plays a major role in an upcoming film produced by DJ Phatty Banks in conjunction with One Voice on bullying in the schools and neighborhoods.

Erin McKelle Fischer (Brecksville/Broadview Heights HS) has created and developed a service organization, "Restyle," in which she solicits clothing donations for adolescent girls at Parmadale. Working with social workers at the site, Erin interviews each girl taking note of style, interest and needs, then "restyles" the donated clothing into complete outfits. Although Erin has had to overcome personal struggles and obstacles, she acts as an advocate for many, having served in MyCom Youth 360 and as a volunteer for the Obama campaign.

### Caring Adult Leaders:

Emily Miller (Slavic Village) is a trusted resource and mentor for youth and has earned the respect of the youth and her peers in the Broadway Slavic Village neighborhood. She is an active volunteer at the Broadway Boys & Girls Club, University Settlement and area schools. This year Emily received grant resources to facilitate a six-week summer work program for a group of 15 neighborhood youth.

Mike Matthis (East Technical HS) instructs students with special needs, and his involvement with students extends beyond when they leave East Tech for the workforce. He continues to offer advice and to advocate for them to help ensure they reach their goals. For the past four years, he has impacted countless teens as the MyCom Youth Leadership Coach at St. Clair-Superior Development Corporation.



GE Design Engineer, Tom Knapp, working with three MC2STEM High School sophomores on a kinetic energy bike system in the Nela Park Campus Fabrication 'Fab' Lab.

### Agency Leaders:

Neighborhood Leadership Institute (NLI) is MyCom's lead agency for Neighborhood Leadership and Community Outreach. They have made great strides in bringing clarity to MyCom's communications outreach to the provider community. Working with Starting Point, NLI is also a leader in incorporating the Efforts To Outcomes initiative into MyCom operations.

Starting Point, MyCom's lead agency for Out-of-School Time, has been able to take existing resources and build upon them. They have worked to incorporate Efforts-To-Outcomes (ETO) strategies into the operations and are working with all their partners to embrace ETO. They are helping MyCom move to the next level.

### Business Leaders:

Corlett Movers & Storage (J. J. Vencl, Owner) responded to a request from Slavic Village Development in 2011 and leveraged grants to hire two neighborhood youth for the summer. One of the young men continued his employment during school breaks and was again hired in 2012. Mr. Vencl has shown a true commitment to youth development and employment, even during tough economic times.

GE Lighting (Andrea L. Timan, Community Relations) became the first official corporate site sponsor of the Cleveland Metropolitan School District's MC2STEM High School in 2008. Today, over 200 GE Lighting employees contribute over 2,600 volunteer hours annually to the program. These volunteers serve as tutors and mentors to students, providing real world opportunities for learning.

# Participating Employers

The journey is easier, the load is lighter, when traveling with good friends.

What makes MyCom's efforts to increase youth employment even more successful is when neighborhood businesses hire youth out of their own budgets.

For the past two years, the private sector contributed a total of \$700,000 which created 450 job opportunities for our kids and the work experiences that they needed.

- Africa House International Learning Center
- Allstate Insurance Macer Agency
- Arby's
- Baldwin-Wallace College Upward Bound
- Bedford City Schools
- Bellaire-Puritas Development Corporation
- Blue Pike Farm
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Cleveland
- Building Blocks Academy
- Building Bridges Arts Collaborative
- Burten, Bell, Carr Development, Inc.
- CAP Academy
- Catholic Cemeteries Association
- Chipotle
- City of Bedford Heights
- City of Cleveland—Department of Human Resources
- City of Cleveland—Department of Water
- City of Cleveland—Division of Port Control
- City of Cleveland—Recreation Centers
- City of Cleveland Heights
- City of East Cleveland
- City of Euclid
- City of Shaker Heights
- City of Warrensville Heights
- Claire's
- Cleveland Botanical Gardens Green Corp.
- Cleveland Bureau of Cultural Arts
- Cleveland City Hall
- Cleveland Clinic
- Cleveland Metroparks
- Cleveland Metropolitan School District
- Cleveland Public Library
- Cleveland Public Theatre
- CMHA—King Kennedy
- CMHA—Riverside
- Coalition For a Better Life, Inc.
- Cuyahoga Community College
- Cuyahoga County Department of Senior and Adult Services
- Cuyahoga Job & Family Services
- Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority
- CVS Pharmacy
- Dave's Supermarket
- East Cleveland Neighborhood Center
- East Cleveland Public Library
- East Cleveland School District
- Ebenezer Assembly of Christ
- EMH Healthcare
- Employment Connection
- Esperanza
- Euclid City Schools





ExSeedingly Well Garden  
 Fatima Family Center  
 FedEx  
 First Baptist Church of Greater Cleveland  
 Five Guys Burgers and Fries  
 Freedom Empowerment Program  
 Friendly Inn Settlement, Inc.  
 Future Connections  
 Garden Valley Neighborhood House  
 Giant Eagle  
 God's Tabernacle of Faith Church  
 Golden Ciphers, Inc.  
 Goodrich-Gannett Neighborhood Center  
 Harvard Community Services Center  
 Haven House Youth Academy  
 Heidtman Steel  
 Heights Christian Church  
 I Can Schools Network–Northeast Ohio College Preparatory School  
 Frank G. Jackson Summer Youth Program  
 Jones Road Church  
 Lakewood Hospital  
 Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center  
 Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd  
 Macy's  
 Maple Heights City Schools  
 Marriott Hotel  
 Marshalls  
 Merrick House  
 Mt. Pleasant Community Zone  
 Neighbor To Neighbor

Neighborhood Leadership Institute  
 New Covenant Lutheran Church  
 NOHSIC  
 Nottingham Youth Center  
 Parma Area Family Collaborative/PCSD  
 Parma Community General Hospital  
 Port Control  
 Rainey Institute  
 Salvation Army (Hough)  
 Sammy's  
 Shaker Heights Schools  
 Shaker Heights Youth Center  
 Shaker Prevention  
 Shaker Public Safety  
 Shaker Public Works  
 Slavic Village Development  
 Southeast Seventh-Day Adventist Church  
 Southwest General Health Center  
 Sports Service  
 St. Clair-Superior Development Corporation

St. Dominic Church  
 St. Philip Neri Family Center  
 Starting Point  
 Summa Health System  
 T. J. Maxx District 1201  
 The MetroHealth System  
 University Hospitals  
 University Settlement  
 Upstage Players  
 Urban Minority Alcoholism and Drug Outreach Program (UMAADOP)  
 Walmart  
 Warrensville Heights City School District  
 Warrensville Road Community Baptist Church  
 Wendy's  
 YMCA–Main Office  
 Young Audiences of Northeast Ohio  
 Youth Opportunities Unlimited  
 Zebach Community Awareness Ministries Inc.



# MyCom Is...

walking the path with young people, preparing them for college, work and life.

The path begins in the neighborhood, then proceeds into the community, and then to the world at large. In the same way, our MyCom programs begin in the neighborhood, where youth learn to get involved and engaged with the caring adults around them. Our programs move into the community, especially to the schools where youth get support as they transition through grade levels, learn to make positive choices and develop their leadership skills. Then MyCom helps youth move into the world as successful college students or productive workers. Many of our youth choose to return to the neighborhoods, to give back from what they've gained.

The journey continues, and the path moves ever on.



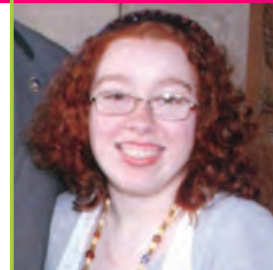
Out-of-School Time

Youth Employment



Youth Engagement/  
Leadership

Youth Transitions



Neighborhood  
Development/  
Caring Adults



## Funders:

Bruening Foundation  
Charter One Bank Foundation  
City of Cleveland  
Cleveland Foundation  
Cuyahoga County Department of Workforce Development  
Cuyahoga County Family and Children First Council  
Fox Sports Ohio  
Roy Hartley  
KeyBank Foundation  
John S. and James L. Knight Foundation  
Lee Lazar  
Leah Martinez  
Jaimie McGuire  
Urban Nilsson  
Corey Radford  
Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland  
Third Federal Foundation  
Treu-Mart Fund  
UnitedHealthcare & Youth Service America  
United Way John K. Mott Youth Fund  
Vexor Technology

## Agencies:

Case Western Reserve University  
Cleveland Public Library  
Neighborhood Leadership Institute  
Partnership For A Safer Cleveland  
Starting Point  
Voices for Ohio's Children  
Youth Opportunities Unlimited (Y.O.U.)

## Neighborhood Partners:

Central: Friendly Inn Settlement Inc.  
Cudell: via Neighborhood Leadership Institute  
Mt. Pleasant: Mt. Pleasant Community Zone

Parma: Parma City Schools  
Slavic Village: Slavic Village Development Corp.  
South Shaker: Shaker Heights Youth Center  
St. Clair-Superior: St. Clair-Superior Development Corp.  
West Park: Bellaire-Puritas Development Corp.

## Out-of-School Time Partners:

America SCORES  
Art House  
Bellaire-Puritas Development Corporation  
Boys & Girls Clubs of Cleveland  
Broadway School of Music & the Arts  
City of Shaker Heights d.b.a. Shaker Prevention Coalition  
Cleveland Police Athletic League  
Cleveland Public Library  
Coalition for a Better Life d.b.a. Peace in the Hood  
College Now Greater Cleveland  
Cudell Improvement, Inc.  
Cudell Recreation Center  
Cuyahoga County Public Library  
Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority  
CWRU/Treu-Mart Youth Development Program  
Eleanor B. Rainey Memorial Institute  
Enhancement Ministries, Inc.  
Esperanza Inc.  
Family Connections of N.E. Ohio  
Foluke

Friendly Inn Settlement, Inc.  
Golden Ciphers  
Goodrich-Gannett Neighborhood Center  
Guidestone  
Jones Road Family Development  
Joyful Noise  
Mt. Pleasant Community Zone  
Murtis H. Taylor Community Zone  
Neighborhood Leadership Institute  
Nueva Luz Urban Resource Center  
Open Doors After School Enrichment Program  
OSU Extension  
Parma Area Family to Family Collaborative  
Parma Community General Hospital d.b.a. Health Education Center  
Rainey Institute  
Shaker Heights Public Library  
Shaker Heights Youth Center  
St. Clair-Superior Development Corporation  
St. Vincent Charity Medical Center d.b.a. Building Healthy Communities  
Thea Bowman Center  
University Settlement  
Urban League of Greater Cleveland  
UW 2-1-1 First Call For Help  
West Side Community House  
YMCA of Greater Cleveland d.b.a. Ridgewood Family Branch YMCA



**MyCOM**  
My Commitment. My Community.

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