



Coralwood Foundation

FISCAL YEAR 2010 • ANNUAL REPORT



Our mission is to promote excellence in early childhood inclusion education, and to provide a vehicle for long term financial and volunteer support for Coralwood School.



2009-2010 CORALWOOD FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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THE CORALWOOD SCHOOL

Coralwood School is the only public school in DeKalb County dedicated to serving children with special needs between three and six years of age. Our research-based educational model includes 12 collaborative and co-teaching classrooms in which six to eight children with special needs and ten typically developing children are educated together. Research shows that this model results in significant gains for special education students, including higher levels of social play, more appropriate social interactions and greater gains in language, cognitive and motor development. Additionally, Coralwood has four self-contained classrooms that serve children with more severe disabilities. Children in the self-contained classes engage in multiple learning experiences with typically developing children throughout the school day.

The classrooms at Coralwood are led by highly specialized teachers and paraprofessionals who cater to a broad set of students with varied needs. The teachers work closely with the following therapists: speech/language, occupational, physical, vision and recreational. Primarily, these therapists provide services to children in the classroom and include both special needs and typical children in various therapies.

2009-2010 Coralwood School Year

of Students: 217

Percentage of students in the following categories:

Disabilities 48%

Free and Reduced Lunch 23%

Minorities 30%

of Home Schools Represented 45



WHAT IS THE CORALWOOD FOUNDATION?

Coralwood Foundation, Inc. was incorporated in May 2005 to create a permanent endowment fund, the income of which is used to promote excellence in early childhood special education at Coralwood, and to provide a vehicle for long-term financial and volunteer support for Coralwood. The Foundation funds the educational innovations of teachers and other professionals at Coralwood and funds a Director of Development who writes grants and raises funds for specific educational initiatives.

Currently, the efforts of the Foundation's Board of Directors are focused on the following initiatives:

- Providing learning opportunities, grants for classroom initiatives and professional development for our school staff;
- Supporting the financial goals of the Foundation through fundraisers such as our Silent Auction and Wine Tasting, as well as grant writing activities;
- Working with the DeKalb County School System and the Board of Education to fund the Master Plan for Coralwood's campus in order to provide enhanced educational opportunities for our children;
- Implementing a marketing and communications plan that will position Coralwood School as the premier primary inclusion school in Georgia;
- Launching the website as a central location for comprehensive information about Coralwood, the Foundation, the PTA, related events and parent resources;
- Actively engaging Coralwood alumni, parents and friends in the continued work of the Foundation through community involvement and outreach as part of the "Coralwood Circle of Friends" group.

The Foundation views these projects as fundamental elements to improve the education of our children now and in the future.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

“What’s in it for you?” -Anonymous Coralwood parent

I was asked recently by a Coralwood parent what I get out of serving as President of the Coralwood Foundation. He did not understand why I would devote so much time and energy to a school at which I have no children and for which I receive no pay. It made me pause. “What’s in it for me” is a foreign concept to a volunteer Board President of a small non-profit, especially one who has given thousands of man hours and dollars to the Coralwood Foundation and the Coralwood Parent Council.

But it made me think. I support Coralwood and the Coralwood Foundation because I am making a positive difference in the lives of children. The benefits that my child, Mary Clara, received years ago when she was a student here at Coralwood are immeasurable. She is learning to read, write and ride a bike, although her first neurologist doubted she would ever walk or talk. Her current progress as an elementary student is based primarily on the foundation of love, support and educational opportunities she received at Coralwood. This is why I support the Coralwood Foundation -- I want the Foundation to have the financial means and long term plan to support the inclusion program here at Coralwood for future students. I am “looking forward and giving back.”



So what’s in it for you? When you serve on the Silent Auction Committee or the Wine Tasting Committee or support these events, you are earning money to pay for

- Your child’s teacher to learn research-based methodologies to develop your child’s pre-literacy and pre-numeracy skills and to fund mini-grants that encourage teachers to create innovative lesson plans that engage and challenge your child;
- Our therapists to receive training to serve children whose services are no longer covered by insurance companies and Medicaid;
- The salary of our Director of Development to write grants that fund our technology, outdoor learning, arts and music programs and fund family events like Turner Day and Family Reading Night;
- All our typically developing three year olds to attend Coralwood as a part of our inclusion model, the cost of which is not covered by government funds;
- Your special needs child to have typically developing children to model learning and social behaviors; and
- Your typically developing child to learn on a gifted track, to develop leadership skills and to show compassion by valuing children of differing abilities in a classroom with an unusually high teacher/student ratio and the latest technological tools.

When you give to this year’s Classroom Challenge, you are

- Funding the endowment that will pay for the Director of Development to write grants for programming;
- Supporting a research-based preschool that recognizes the abilities of every child and educates each child based on their individual needs;
- Putting money immediately into your child’s classroom through Classroom Challenge awards for teachers;
- Guaranteeing that a nationally recognized inclusion preschool will serve special needs and typically developing children for years to come; and
- Giving to all the future children of our community and teaching your children to be generous and inclusive.

Current students are reaping the benefits of the generosity and support of prior Coralwood families through their donations and support of the Coralwood Foundation. For example, the 2006 Classroom Challenge raised \$68,000 which has been used to build the handicapped accessible Nature Trail and Treehouse, to purchase Promethean ActivBoards for the classrooms and other equipment vital to the welfare and education of our students. Over the past five years, approximately \$42,000 has been allocated to teacher training, professional development and mini-grants. Through the Coralwood Foundation, over \$315,000 has been raised through special events, grants and in-kind donations. All of these dollars have been wisely invested to enrich our inclusion program which benefits your child today.

Coralwood Foundation keeps our community focused on the long-term vision: a Master Plan for the entire campus and an endowment to support the inclusion program and our Director of Development. Without volunteers who are willing to devote years of persistent effort, our little three year school would revert to the days of the spaghetti supper and bake sale to scrape up a little cash for the essentials. Thanks to people like you, we have taken on the challenges of decreased government funding and set incredible goals to expand and improve Coralwood School.

I support Coralwood Foundation because I love children and support the exceptional inclusive education they receive at Coralwood. I want to express my deepest thanks for the generous donations and countless hours of service by our directors, staff, parents and our many volunteers. The Coralwood students receive a richer education because of our community’s commitment to the vision of academic excellence at the Coralwood School. Thank you for your donation to the Classroom Challenge which is truly an investment for future Coralwood students.

Janet Haury, President

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

“We are planting trees under whose shade we will never sit.” *-Greek Proverb*



It is an honor and privilege to thank the Coralwood Family for their amazing generosity and support. The 2009-10 Classroom Challenge exhibits strong community support and an investment in the lives of our students.

Over three years ago, the Coralwood Foundation's Master Plan Committee began a very ambitious project of enhancing the campus to meet the needs of current and future students. The vision of an improved facility and campus was the work of parents, grandparents, teachers, therapists, community volunteers, administrators and board members. All stakeholders were encouraged to participate in this process and the seeds for a brighter future were planted for Coralwood students.

The Master Plan focused on renovation and additions to the building that included a large therapy room, additional classrooms, therapy spaces, parent training space and restrooms. Teachers, therapists, parents and community members participated in the focus groups that helped define the needs of the school. In 2009 the DeKalb School System awarded the design of the project to R. L. Brown, an architectural firm. The Master Plan process began in 2007 and required persistence and dedication from former parents and community volunteers.

Now three years later, all of these efforts are starting to bear fruit. The handicapped accessible Nature Trail, completed in May 2009, and the Treehouse, completed in May 2010, are proof that a committed group can impact future generations of students. The Nature Trail and Treehouse would not have been possible without the dreams, vision and labor of so many stakeholders and the 200 families who gave to the 2006 Classroom Challenge.

There is much work left to do to make our vision a reality. Previous families have left their handprint on Coralwood with their many contributions of time, talent and treasure. I want to thank each of the families for contributing to the 2009-10 Classroom Challenge. You are helping the Coralwood Foundation to plant more seeds for a brighter future for our students and to continue on our journey toward excellence in Early Childhood Special Education.

Rebecca Blanton, Principal



"I was thrilled to see the completion of the Coralwood Treehouse. Back in 2006, with my youngest child in a Kindergarten classroom, we were one of close to 200 families contributing to that year's Classroom Challenge earmarked for a capital fund for the Coralwood Master Plan. I knew at that time that it would take a while before we would see anything built, and that clearly our kids would be long gone by then. But that did not stop us from giving; we felt very strongly about the inclusion program Coralwood offered, and the Coralwood Foundation had a clearly articulated long term plan that gave us confidence the project would come to fruition years later. We remain grateful to Coralwood and its Foundation for providing an opportunity to be part of something much bigger than ourselves."

- Alex Walters, founding member of the Coralwood Foundation

FISCAL YEAR 2010 PROGRESS REPORT

During Fiscal Year 2010, the Coralwood Foundation successfully accomplished the following objectives:

- Built a \$48,125 ADA accessible Treehouse using \$41,747 raised from the FY2006 Classroom Challenge designated for capital improvements in addition to \$6,378 in grants;
- Provided \$5,182 in funding for professional development and conferences for staff;
- Presented five teachers/para-professionals with a total of \$1,758 in Mini-Grants for Teachers awards including a yoga program, art workshops and cultural outings, a Promethean ActivBoard, a speech program using the nature trail, and an Urban Birds event;
- Raised \$58,000 toward the Endowment Fund through the Classroom Challenge;
- Achieved 100% Classroom Challenge giving rate from Coralwood families and the Foundation Board;
- Awarded \$7,100 for academic support to 16 classes with 100% participation in the Classroom Challenge;
- Raised \$31,694 through the Silent Auction and Wine Tasting; and
- Received seven grants totaling \$19,916 for Family Reading Night, a kindergarten dance curriculum, a Family Festival, grounds maintenance, a Promethean ActivBoard, classroom supplies, adaptive equipment, an industrial-sized moon walk, Wiis and Wii Fits, iPod Nanos, a soccer program, and a color photo printer.



FISCAL YEAR 2010 GRANTS AND IN-KIND GIFTS

GRANTS

- Allstate Foundation - \$500
- DeKalb County Board of Health School Nutrition, Physical Activity and Tobacco Use Prevention Grant - \$5,000
- Designated Gift from a Coralwood Family - \$5,362
- Georgia Council for the Arts
 - Arts Curriculum Enhancement Year Three Grant - \$3,750
- Kroger - \$1,000
- Target - \$1,500
- Turner Broadcasting Inc. - \$2,534

IN-KIND GIFTS

- Jenny Bell
- Chamberlain Blanton Associates Architects
- Amy and Todd Cameron
- Britton Cloud
- Marilee Doran
- GameStop
- Steve Harrison
- Morris Manning and Martin LLP
- VSA arts of Georgia



"For the past four years Turner has worked with the Coralwood Foundation as a volunteer site for its annual day of service, Turner Volunteer Day. Each year Turner Broadcasting accepts proposals for projects that need to be completed in the metro-Atlanta area. For the past four years, Coralwood has submitted an outstanding proposal that is thoughtful, detailed and demonstrates the direct impact for the school and for Turner's volunteers. We value our community relationship with the Coralwood Foundation."

Erin Malone, Turner Broadcasting Inc.

CORALWOOD FOUNDATION, INC. INCOME STATEMENT
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2010

FISCAL YEAR 2011
GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

During Fiscal Year 2011, the goals and objectives of the Coralwood Foundation are to:

- Secure a financial commitment from DeKalb County School System for the Master Plan;
- Create a Nature Trail Development Plan including an irrigation solution;
- Continue to foster an inclusive environment that promotes innovative educational methodologies in the classroom;
- Support the financial goals of the Foundation through the Classroom Challenge, Silent Auction and Wine Tasting; and
- Engage both current and alumni parents and community members to fully support the mission of the Coralwood Foundation.



INCOME	AMOUNT
Contributions	
Individual	\$51,561
Corporate matches	\$2,525
Corporate	\$1,735
Total Contributions	<u>\$55,821</u>
Grants	
Corporate and Business	\$10,666
Government	\$6,357
Individual	\$5,632
Total Grants	<u>\$22,655</u>
Special Events Income	
Special Events Silent Auction sales	\$24,773
Special Events Ticket Sales	\$11,932
Total Special Events Income	<u>\$36,705</u>
Sale of investments	\$16,700
Dividends and Interest	\$5,411
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$712
TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$138,004</u>
EXPENSES	
Contract Services	
Outside Contract Services	\$61,268
Director of Development	\$14,050
Total Contract Services	<u>\$75,318</u>
Awards and Grants	
Classroom Challenge Awards	\$5,887
Teacher Mini-Grants	\$1,628
Total Awards and Grants	<u>\$7,515</u>
Operations	
Supplies	\$10,501
Children's Entertainment	\$1,032
Facilities Rental	\$3,048
Printing, Copying, Postage	\$1,180
Postage	\$374
Food and drink	\$289
Total Operations	<u>\$16,423</u>
Travel and Meetings	
On-site training	\$3,985
Conference, Convention, Meeting	\$2,232
Travel	\$251
Total Travel and Meetings	<u>\$6,468</u>
Equipment Expense	\$6,724
Administrative Expenses	
Depreciation	\$3,867
Software	\$1,082
Equipment	\$1,055
Insurance	\$874
Review Expense	\$755
Miscellaneous Administrative	\$30
Total Administrative Expenses	<u>\$7,663</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$120,111</u>
NET INCOME	<u>\$17,893</u>

ASSETS

Current Assets	
Checking	\$11,992
Savings	\$1,683
Total Checking & Savings	<u>\$13,675</u>
Accounts Receivable	<u>\$251</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>\$13,926</u>
Long Term Investments (at market value)	
Capital Fund	\$17,761
Endowment Fund	
Vanguard Money Market	\$27,139
Vanguard Conservative Growth	\$133,826
Vanguard Income	\$39,565
Vanguard Moderate Growth	<u>\$66,017</u>
Total Endowment Fund	<u>\$266,547</u>
Total Long Term Investments	<u>\$284,308</u>
Fixed Assets	
Equipment	\$31,101
Accumulated Depreciation	<u>-\$8,098</u>
Total Fixed Assets	<u>\$23,003</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$321,237</u>

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	<u>\$3,506</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>\$3,506</u>
Retained Earnings	
Opening Balance Retained Earnings	\$160,701
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$139,137
Net Income	<u>\$17,893</u>
Total Retained Earnings	<u>\$317,731</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u>\$321,237</u>



I am amazed at how the Treehouse has served to foster my son Jack's academic, physical, and emotional growth. On the first day of summer vacation he asked to ride his bike straight to the Treehouse so he could complete lessons in his Social Studies book. Magic! But I know it was no magic that brought the Nature Trail and Treehouse to Coralwood. Thank you for all that you do for the school.

-Page Anderson, Coralwood Parent

2009-2010 CLASSROOM CHALLENGE DONORS



VISION CIRCLE (\$5,000+)

Jessica and Kevin Bandy

DEDICATION CIRCLE (\$1,000 - \$4,999)

Frank Belatti
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Laura Spier
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SUPPORTER CIRCLE (UP TO \$249)

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Carmen Avent
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Michele & Steven Berkowitz
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