

CAROLINE CENTER

I HAVE A DREAM ^{TOO,}
YOU KNOW.

AND MY
HOPE,
MY HOPE
FACES
FORWARD.

2014-2015

ANNUAL REPORT



MISSION

Caroline Center educates unemployed and underemployed women in Baltimore for careers with potential for advancement. Inspired by the School Sisters of Notre Dame, Caroline Center's holistic approach empowers each woman to reach the fullness of her potential thus creating a future of hope for herself and her family.



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FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends of Caroline Center,

During the past year and through some difficult days in Baltimore, your dedication to Caroline Center gave us new courage, and your generosity strengthened our resolve and our commitment to women and work. As we anticipate the meaningful ways we will celebrate Caroline Center's 20th Anniversary year together in 2015-2016, we are so very grateful to you for your past support of the Annual Fund and for lighting the spark of hope that will illuminate our path moving forward.

Your gift to the Annual Fund last year helped keep the promise of a meaningful career with the possibility for advancement within reach for hundreds of Caroline Center graduates; and, your generosity made it possible for Caroline Center trainees to receive an education and career skills training that kept their hope facing forward. Together, we are making positive change possible – change that may have begun with one Caroline Center trainee – that has blossomed to include her family, our community, and our city.

You have helped make so many successes possible for Caroline Center, and we wanted to share just a few of the highlights.

WITH YOUR SUPPORT:

- + *We created more opportunities for our graduates to advance in their careers by deepening partnerships with local employers and academic institutions*
- + *We expanded and diversified our program funding through endowment giving so that we can continue to serve women who are most in need*
- + *We upgraded classroom technology and added new software tools so that teaching and learning could be on par with the excellence of our education and career skills training program*
- + *We competed successfully in international and state competition, receiving platinum and gold awards and recognition as "Best in Maryland" for our "What It Takes" marketing and communications campaign*

The greatest successes your contribution supports, however, are the achievements of our graduates who are able to become their best personal and professional selves because you had faith in them and what they could accomplish. For all that you helped make possible in 2014-2015 for the women of Caroline Center, thank you so very much. We look forward to celebrating Caroline Center's 20th Anniversary with you in the year ahead.



Mary Anne O'Donnell



S. Pat McLaughlin



Brian & Marsha Ballantine DONOR PROFILE

What do you hope that your Annual Fund gift will help make possible for Caroline Center? For Caroline Center trainees and graduates? For Baltimore City and Baltimore-area employers? For the future of “women and work?”

BRIAN & MARSHA: That's a good question. A big part of why we donate to Caroline Center, even though we no longer live in Baltimore, is because we love the city. Baltimore holds a special place in our hearts: we were married in Baltimore. We also know that Caroline Center is such a force for positive change – change that is brought about by empowering women to take active control over their lives. Caroline Center empowers women not only through career skills training, but also through the wonderful work the organization has done in creating powerful partnerships – partnerships that will ensure that women graduating from the program can enter new careers that will pay real wages so that graduates can make a difference in their own lives and in the lives of their families. It's humbling and wonderful to know that our small donation helps make real change possible. We hope that our donation continues to provide better futures for the women who come through Caroline Center's doors each and every day – not only for them, but for their daughters and sons, too.

Why is making a Recurring Gift to Caroline Center through the Annual Fund so meaningful to you and your wife?

BRIAN: It's a little cheesy, but our first date was volunteering together at Caroline Center. Marsha was excited because she got to cut down a tree (we were mowing/taming the backyard for a good part of the day), and I was excited that she was willing to tag along and see this place that had a special place in my heart. It's been a joy to share that with her, and we look forward to bringing our son, Andrew, to Caroline Center someday to volunteer for a bit, too. Making a Recurring Gift in the form of a monthly donation is a fun reminder of where this whole journey of our lives together actually began. On a more serious note, I know that our monthly donation is helping to provide a better future for countless, deserving women each year.

What would you say to donors who may be considering making a gift to Caroline Center through the Annual Fund?

BRIAN & MARSHA: Do it! It takes less than two minutes online, and it is a wonderful way to make a real and concrete difference in women's lives. Any amount can and will make a huge difference.

Is there anything else you would like to share with readers?

BRIAN & MARSHA: No amount is too small, and little donations add up. It's a bit odd to be considered a "generous donor" because we both wish we could give more. We give what we can; and, we make giving a priority because it does make such a huge difference. We know that the donation we give each month really does add up to something wonderful. It's just such an easy way – for us – for anybody – to make a huge difference in the life of a real person.

As generous donors to Caroline Center, could you please share with readers why you and your wife have chosen to show your support through the Annual Fund?

BRIAN: We donate to the Annual Fund because as a former Caroline Center volunteer and intern, I have seen firsthand the difference Caroline Center makes in women's lives and the positive changes Caroline Center and its graduates are making in Baltimore. Caroline Center removes employment barriers for women by offering them an excellent education. More than this, Caroline Center empowers women to love themselves and each other in a world that often devalues them. The women of Caroline Center truly do support one another, and they root for each other. Caroline Center teaches the women who enroll in the program that they are truly remarkable women – despite what society or the negative voices in their lives are telling them. That's why we donate.

2014 - 2015 CONTRIBUTORS

This report recognizes the generosity of donors who have made gifts to Caroline Center between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015. The honor roll of donors includes gifts from individuals, organizations, foundations, and corporations to the Annual Fund. On behalf of the Caroline Center trainees and graduates whose lives have been strengthened through the life-changing opportunities for education, career skills training, and employment, you helped to provide, we thank you. With your commitment, Caroline Center can continue to offer its transformational program, strengthen families and neighborhoods, and prepare women to contribute in lasting ways to the economic vitality and vibrancy of Baltimore.

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Created by John I. Leahy to honor the memory of his wife, the Nancy B. Leahy Scholars Program allows Caroline Center to make its educational program available to women in most need and who would most benefit from the opportunity through direct scholarship assistance. During her life, Nancy B. Leahy gave selflessly of her time, talents, and resources to the women of Caroline Center. Donors who support Caroline Center today through the scholars program help to continue Nancy B. Leahy's legacy through their generous giving. Caroline Center is grateful to the donors who chose to support the scholars program this past year, and we are thankful to the Leahy family for their ongoing support and vision, which enabled Caroline Center to establish its outstanding training program for certified pharmacy technicians (PT).

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ENDOWMENT

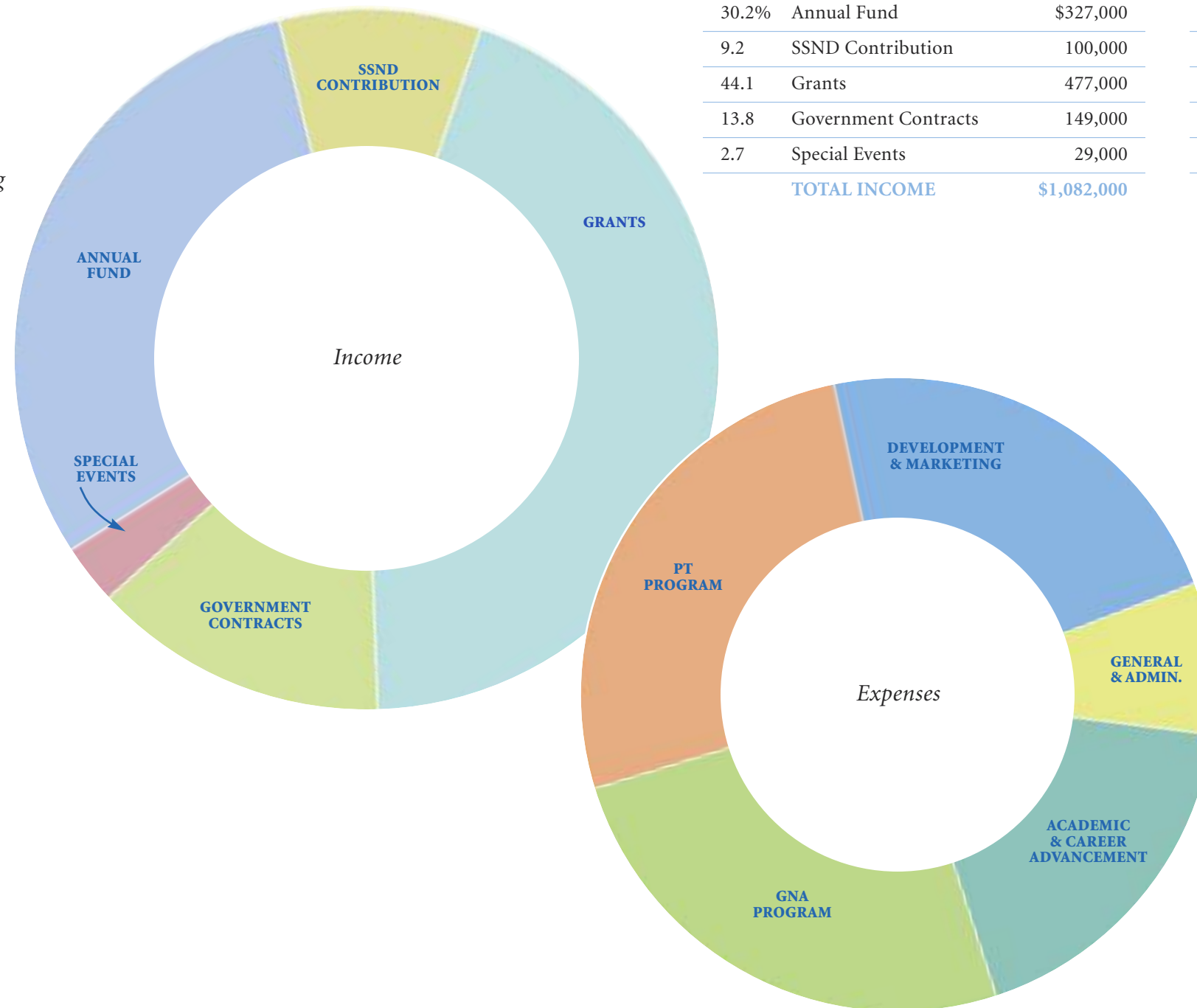
A generous donation from Mary Catherine Bunting made it possible for Caroline Center to establish an endowment fund in 2011. A vibrant endowment will help preserve the vitality of the Caroline Center educational program and will help make the excellent program available to hundreds of women each year who are seeking to start new lives through careers with potential for advancement. If you would like to know more about making an endowment gift, please contact Development Director Mitch Crook at mcrook@caroline-center.org.

PERMANENT ENDOWMENT GIFTS

Mr. & Mrs. F. Patrick Hughes • Middendorf Foundation, Inc. • Mr. & Mrs. Charles F. Zeiler

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT OF OPERATING FUNDS

With the generous support of donors, Caroline Center is able to provide its program tuition-free to highly motivated women who are currently working in low-wage jobs or experiencing unemployment so that they can pursue meaningful careers and have access to the life-changing opportunities that an SSND-inspired education can provide. All contributions directly support the program and help underserved women progress along their career and higher educational paths.



Note:
THIS REPORT IS BASED ON ACTUAL REVENUES RECEIVED AND EXPENSES (CASH BASIS) ROUNDED TO THE NEAREST THOUSAND.



WIZARD OF OZ SING-A-LONG

We are grateful to our many friends and generous sponsors whose support made this year's benefit event for the women of Caroline Center a success. "The Wizard of Oz Sing-a-Long," which was held at the Hippodrome Theatre on May 8, 2015, brought hundreds of enthusiastic fans dressed as their favorite movie characters for the traditional costume parade and contest and the classic 1939 sing-a-long film. We also want to thank our emcees for the evening – actor and Baltimore celebrity David DeBoy and the Bawlmer Hons – who so graciously dedicated their talents to create a memorable, hilarious, and fun-filled evening for all. Proceeds from "The Wizard of Oz Sing-a-Long" brought 29,000 additional dollars to the delivery of our educational and career skills training program, helping to ensure that women in most need and who would most benefit from the opportunity would be able to do so.

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LEGACY GIVING

Changing the world may seem a daunting task, but doing your part to make your corner of the world just a little better can begin with a simple, yet significant choice. When you choose to become a member of the Mother Caroline Friess Planned Legacy Society, you are choosing to be a powerful agent of change and to help heal and renew the world – one woman at a time – by eliminating the root causes and injustices of poverty. If you would like more information about how to make a legacy gift, become a member of the Mother Caroline Friess Planned Legacy Society, or would like to let us know that you have included Caroline Center in your will, please contact Development Director Mitch Crook at mcrook@caroline-center.org or 410.563.1303

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