



Dear Friends,

To say that the Covid-19 pandemic has changed the world would be an understatement. The last seven months has upended day-to-day lives across the globe. The pandemic has changed how we work, learn and interact as social distancing led to a more virtual existence. Yet, as I look back, I am incredibly thankful for you—our supporters, colleagues, friends and staff—for your tenacious dedication to the children in our community. There are many examples of mobilization, collaboration and inspiration as the nonprofit and service community found new ways to stay connected with families.

Like you, The Georgetown Project had to adapt. Limited face-to-face communication with our kiddos last spring and summer was tough; however, it opened the door for enhanced case management and outreach strategies, virtual learning platforms for parents and childcare providers, and the opportunity to build new partnerships.

While Georgetown's children have returned to school, whether virtually or on-campus, Covid-19 continues to impact youth and the afterschool programs partners who serve them. Young people with strong Developmental Relationships in place have been able to navigate these strange times. Other youth are still recovering from social isolation, stress, disruptions in mental health supports, and other adverse effects associated with the pandemic.

Local afterschool programs are important and powerful promoters in the lives of young people, building relationships and skills to form healthy behaviors, inspire learning, build resilience and help working families. The benefits of high-quality afterschool programs can last a lifetime.

#GivingTuesday is right around the corner (December 1st) and between now and then, our goal is to raise \$10,000 which would provide scholarships for 20 additional students to attend our *After School Action Program (ASAP)* program partnership with Georgetown ISD. ASAP provides middle school students a safe, caring and enriching place after school right on their own campus.

ASAP has served over 75,000 GISD middle school students in the past 22 years, and typically an average of 90% attend on full or partial scholarships. Last year, 91% of ASAP students showed improvement in academics and thrived through experiential learning opportunities that promote leadership, STEM, service to community and career exploration. In addition, about 2,500 healthy meals/snacks are provided each year to youth in the program.

Please help us reach our #GivingTuesday goal of \$10,000 by December 1st. You can easily donate today by clicking the donation button below. Together, we can help families in need and increase access for more Georgetown students to a safe, affordable and nurturing place to go after school.

Thank you very much,

Leslie Janca
Chief Executive Officer
The Georgetown Project