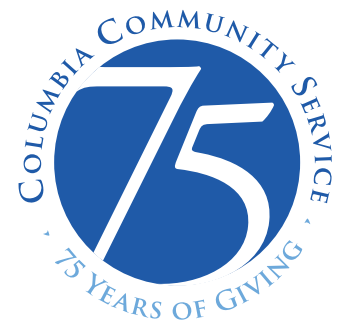




75 YEARS AND GROWING: EMPLOYEE GIVING TO HARLEM AND MORNINGSIDE HEIGHTS

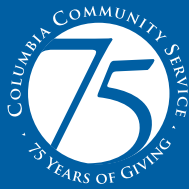


 COLUMBIA COMMUNITY SERVICE



Mission

Columbia Community Service (CCS) supports nonprofit organizations through the generosity of faculty, staff, and retirees of Columbia, Barnard, and Teachers College. With funds raised from the Annual Appeal campaign, CCS provides grants to programs in Harlem and Morningside Heights that combat hunger, provide social services, support the arts, and fill educational gaps for youth in STEM, arts, and literacy. For more than seven decades, 100 percent of these donations have been provided directly to our community partners and neighbors in need. In addition, CCS facilitates in-kind contributions, volunteer opportunities, and workshops that connect our University community to grantees.



CCS is one of the oldest and most visible elements of the commitment that Columbia, Barnard, and Teachers College have to our surrounding communities. Every year, the CCS Annual Appeal connects the University community with numerous ways to support our neighbors, including volunteer opportunities and special events like an Annual Toy Drive. Our commitment to supporting the food security, health, and education of our neighbors in Harlem and Morningside Heights dates back 75 years and will continue into the future.

A full listing of grantees, including the history of CCS, can be found on our website: <http://communityservice.columbia.edu/>

In Commemoration of the 75th Annual Appeal Campaign

Dear fellow members of the University community:

This fall marks the 75th anniversary of the Columbia Community Service (CCS) Annual Appeal. The appeal began in 1946, when a small group of female faculty members and civically engaged women sent a letter to all Columbia faculty and staff asking for contributions to social service organizations and charities that were helping families and communities navigate the challenges of the post-World War II period. It called for colleagues to give what they could to meet a tremendous need at a time of uncertainty and upheaval. Three quarters of a century later, we honor this legacy of employee giving by writing to ask for your help in supporting nonprofits dedicated to improving the lives of people in Harlem and Morningside Heights.

We thank all the generous donors who continue to support CCS and encourage those who have yet to donate to do so this year. At the end of the last fundraising effort this past summer, CCS donated \$300,000 in grants to 52 local organizations. These funds went directly to groups providing meals and health and social services to the elderly and other people in need. They also went to programs promoting literacy and other K-12 educational support, with a focus on STEM and the arts. Through the generosity of donors, the CCS Food Relief Project gave an additional \$83,000 to organizations fighting food insecurity.

As we celebrate this milestone year, CCS looks to expand its support for organizations offering services to vulnerable people and communities amid the ongoing challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. We have been very gratified by the work of our colleagues who have joined the CCS 75th Anniversary Steering Committee to provide additional leadership at this critical time. We are also excited by the partnership between CCS and the United Way of New York, which is reinvigorating this vital work in promising new ways.

Thousands of employees and retirees from Columbia, Barnard, and Teachers College donate to CCS each year. We take great pride in every contribution. Your support is urgently needed. You can give to the Annual Appeal and find more information on the CCS website. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Lee C. Bollinger

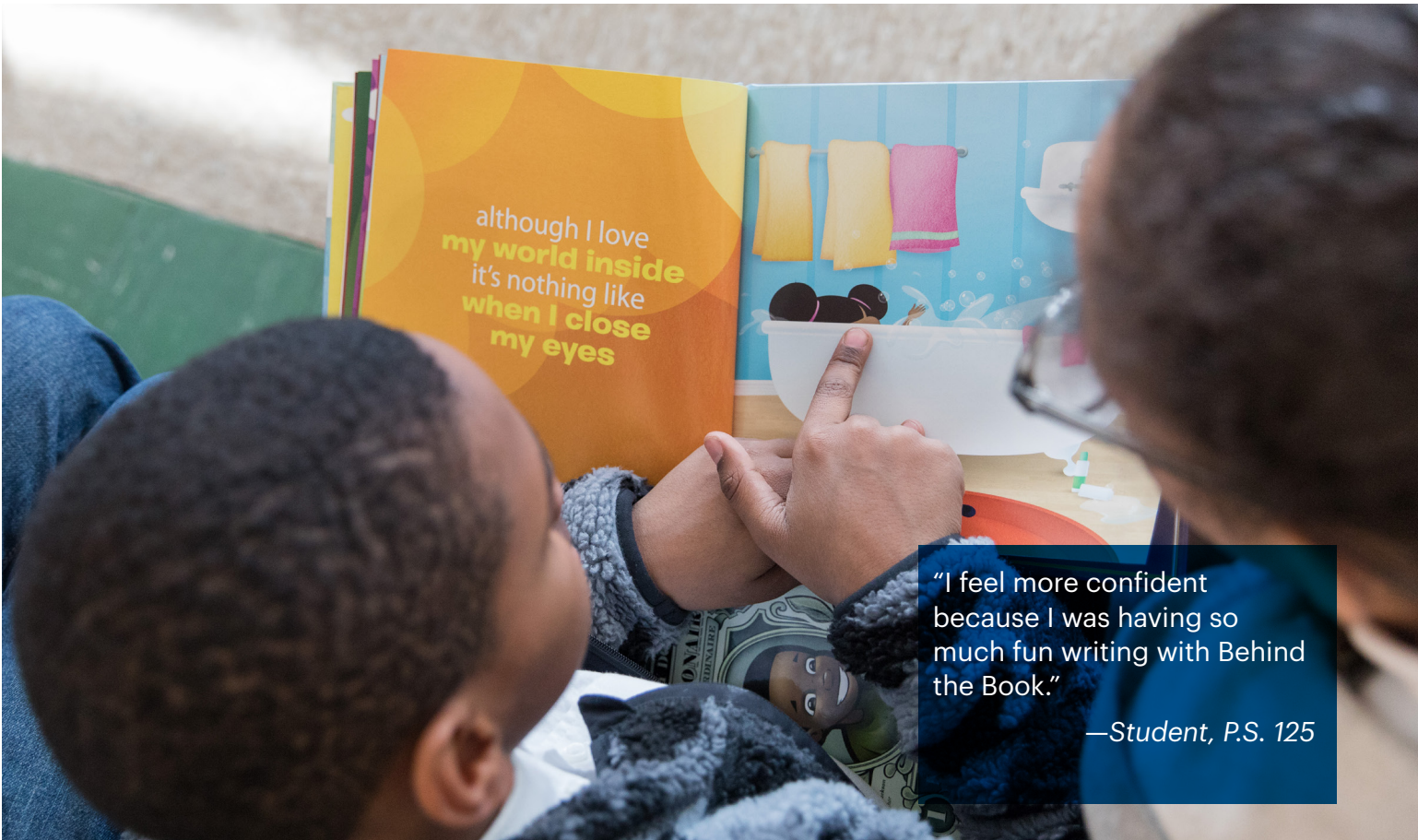
CCS Chair
President, Columbia University

Sian Leah Beilock

CCS Co-chair
President, Barnard College

Thomas R. Bailey

CCS Co-chair
President, Teachers College



"I feel more confident because I was having so much fun writing with Behind the Book."
—Student, P.S. 125



"Thanks to Arts and Minds, my grandmother has had some fun and enjoyment in this depressing episode of her life."
—Soham Bafana
Grandson of an Arts & Minds participant living with dementia

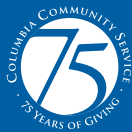
CCS Impact over the Years

In the past two decades alone, CCS has raised more than \$6 million in donations from staff, faculty, and retirees of our University community. These employees' donations to the Annual Appeal enable CCS to provide grant support to programs fighting hunger, supporting health, and education services that promote literacy, STEM, and nutrition.

CCS awards grants to select nonprofit organizations that reside in a catchment area defined as the area north of West 86th Street, south of West 155th Street, and between 5th Avenue on the east and the Hudson River on the west.



Making a Difference: Employee Donors



In its milestone 75th year, the Columbia Community Service Annual Appeal raised more than **\$400,000** from hundreds of Columbia, Barnard, and Teachers College faculty, staff, and retirees. Thanks to that generous support, CCS awarded grants totaling **\$400,262** to **61 organizations** in Harlem and Morningside Heights that share the mission of CCS:



\$71,000 awarded to seven organizations that provide meals and food to people in need in Harlem and Morningside Heights, including Broadway Community and The Corbin Hill Food Project. They meet an important area of need in our community and help ensure that children and adults have access to plenty of nutritious food.



\$45,862 awarded to nine organizations that support the arts and arts education, such as The Morningside Players and Bloomingdale School of Music. These organizations enrich the culture of the neighborhood and provide hands-on opportunities for children and adults to experience theater, music, and visual arts.



\$150,500 awarded to 24 organizations that provide educational support for K-12 students. They offer literacy education (like Behind the Book), educational clubs and activities (like Triple F Empowerment Inc.), tutoring and physical activity opportunities (like StreetSquash), and more.



\$132,900 awarded to 21 organizations that provide vital health and social services to a wide variety of vulnerable and in-need populations in our community. These services range from Arts and Minds providing arts programs for individuals with dementia and Alzheimer's, to Trinity Community Connection helping house homeless LGBTQ+ youth, to Samaritan Daytop Foundation providing substance abuse and health care.

In honor of the 75th Anniversary, the Columbia University Office of the President matched gifts from first-time CCS donors. The Office of Public Affairs matched all the donations from its staff. Close to \$100,000 was raised via this matching initiative.



In addition to the long-term grantees that CCS is proud to support every year, in this 75th year we provided funds to 11 first-time grantees:

- Association to Benefit Children (ABC): ABC has served children struggling with the complex and compounded issues of hunger, poverty, and abuse since 1986. The CCS grant will allow ABC to support its family therapist, who provides key services.
- DOROT: With its CCS grant, DOROT will support two of its visiting and package delivery programs for seniors, allowing it to continue its work to alleviate isolation for older adults.
- Friends of Morningside Park: The CCS grant that supported the Juneteenth/Common Ground Family Festival is part of the group's continued work to maintain Morningside Park.
- Hit the Books: A CCS grant will allow Hit the Books to dramatically expand the number of students it provides with after-school services that include academic support, mentorship, martial arts classes, and more.
- In Arms Reach, Inc.: With CCS support, it will continue to provide STEM education to children and families who have been impacted by mass incarceration.
- Moving For Life: CCS funding will allow more stabilized dance programming at a variety of West Harlem locations. The dance exercise classes, which are for older adults and anyone affected by cancer, are proved to promote health.
- Riverside Hawks Leadership Academy: Providing more enrichment opportunities to middle school athletes through CCS funding, Riverside Hawks will continue working to encourage academic success, character growth, and athletic excellence in students.
- STEM Educational Institute (SEI): The CCS grant will allow SEI to provide college scholarships to students from several Upper Manhattan zip codes.
- The Community Initiatives of NY (TCIONY): The Teens Against Guns program, part of the organization's work to improve the quality of life for vulnerable individuals, will be bolstered by the CCS grant.
- The HOPE Center: CCS funds will support a photography project called Snapshot, focused on enhancing social and emotional communication through photography and images.
- The Parris Foundation (TPF): The foundation's return to in-person STEM education programming will be eased with the funding from CCS.

“The Riverside Hawks Leadership Academy has been a blessing for my child. The academic support and tutoring provided by the program have helped my child to excel in school and have instilled a love of learning in them.

—Marjorie



Beyond Dollars: Volunteers in Action

There are lots of ways we support Columbia Community Service's 61 grantee organizations that serve Morningside Heights and Harlem. In addition to making donations, many members of the Columbia community participate in clothing, toy, and school supply drives; and others donate their time by volunteering directly with the organizations. Students, faculty, and staff from around the University share their passions and skills and help the organizations continue their important work. You can learn more about how CCS donors give back to the community by visiting the [CCS website](#).



A longtime donor to Columbia Community Service, Chemical Engineering Professor **Edward Leonard** at Columbia University went beyond the call of the Annual "Back to School Campaign" to donate a research microscope to CCS grantee Triple F Empowerment Inc., an organization that works to inspire, empower, and encourage the young people of Harlem to pursue education and careers in the STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) fields. Stephanie Farmer, Triple F Empowerment's founder and executive director, had been interested in acquiring a "real microscope" for her Science Club to impart a deeper understanding of biology and proper laboratory equipment usage to her students.

Professor Leonard shared the unique history behind the microscope. It originally belonged to Dr. Leo Vroman, a dear friend and researcher at the Brooklyn VA hospital. "In spite of his truly great discoveries (many textbooks identify them as the 'Vroman Effect'), when he got to be of retirement age the VA closed his lab. Dr.

Vroman came to my lab, with equipment from the VA, and continued his work with us. He died only recently when he was in his 90s. We did some publishing together, but he had already made the 'breakthrough' discovery before he came to us."

In the near future, Professor Leonard hopes to visit with Triple F Empowerment students to explain more about the blood clotting process. Ms. Farmer plans to use the microscope primarily for a study of the pond located in Morningside Park. Her students would learn about sample collection and data analysis and present their findings to a panel.

CCS Grantee West Side Campaign Against Hunger (WSCAH) leads an annual Turkey Challenge that has the ambitious goal of providing Thanksgiving meals and turkeys to 7,000 New York families facing food insecurity. For more than 20 years, WSCAH has provided turkeys and healthy food so that every family can enjoy a Thanksgiving meal together. In November 2021, CCS increased its impact by partnering with Columbia University Facilities and Operations to donate 551 turkeys to the WSCAH.



“Our team had a wonderful experience at WSCAH. There were stations for packing, unloading, and distribution, and each was very organized. It was a great opportunity for teamwork and bonding, as well as giving back to the community.”

—Nicole Kottmann, Columbia Investment Management Company, L.L.C.

“We greatly appreciate Columbia Community Service's ongoing support and promotion of our volunteer opportunities. Volunteers are the heartbeat of our agency, and without strong partners like Columbia Community Service, we would not be able to build such a steady volunteer base.”

—Isaac Adlerstein
Executive Director, Broadway Community



Civic Engagement: Student Volunteers Step outside the Classroom

Examples of how students from around the University are donating their time and enriching their community by helping out at grantee organizations.

Karina Leung is a Columbia College senior majoring in biochemistry. This past summer, she volunteered with Lifeforce in Later Years (L.I.L.Y.), which gave her the opportunity to meet many amazing seniors in the Morningside Heights community. She assisted them with daily tasks and had meaningful conversations with them.



Because she enjoyed that volunteer experience, she decided to become an after-school science tutor with Legal Outreach during the academic year. Karina found out about both these organizations through the Columbia Community Service website and reached out to the organizations directly. She also signed up to become a CCS ambassador so that she can help promote the work of the grantees and get her fellow students involved in the many community service opportunities.

L.I.L.Y. volunteers pay friendly visits to local seniors, go for walks with them, help them run errands or accompany them to doctor appointments, offer technological support, and most importantly, provide companionship for the older members of our community who are aging alone and at home.

Legal Outreach provides social and academic support for low-income, minority, and first-generation urban youth from underserved neighborhoods in New York City. It is seeking volunteers to do virtual tutoring twice a week in math, science, or grammar.

At Columbia University Irving Medical Center's Brain Health Fair/Feria de la Salud Cerebral on Saturday, September 17, **Ndubueze Okonkwo (CC'23)** staffed the information table for Arts and Minds. Ndubueze spoke with community members in English and in Spanish about the organization, which is committed to improving the well-being of people with dementia and their care partners through new art experiences and is seeking volunteers to help with community outreach.

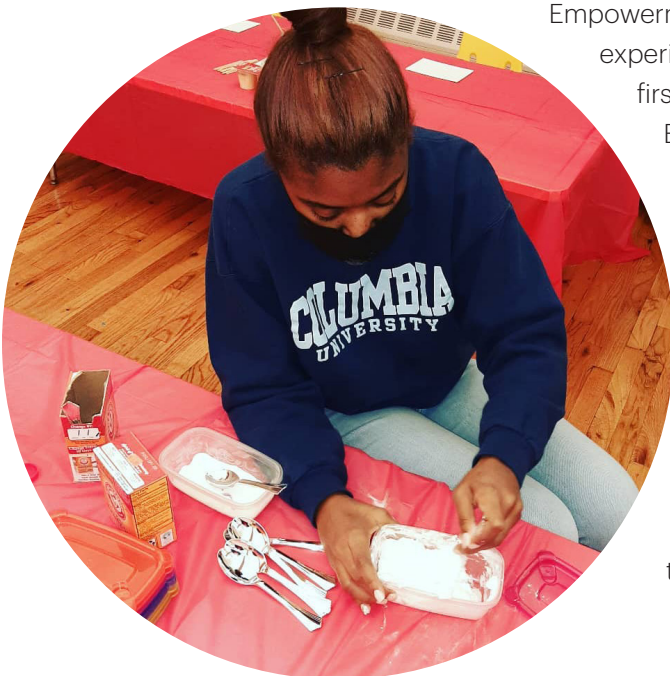
His brother, **Jude Okonkwo (P&S'25)**, also stopped by the fair to support the effort.

Volunteers like Ndubueze can staff tables at community health fairs, help with grant research and fundraising, work on developing effective emails, and support other creative outreach.



Ayanna Butler-Hooker volunteers with **Stephanie Farmer** at Triple F Empowerment Inc., which provides students with educational experiences that encourage an interest in STEAM careers. A first-year PhD student in the Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Environmental Biology at the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Ayanna works with the children who attend the Saturday Science Club. She found this opportunity through the volunteer listings on the Columbia Community Service website.

Triple F Empowerment Inc. operates the beloved STEAM education program known as Ms. Steph's Science Club. Every Saturday afternoon, volunteers help and supervise the Science Club participants as they safely enjoy STEAM activities and play outdoors.



Generosity Is Campus-Wide



Columbia Community Service traditionally provides grants to community organizations annually and through special fundraising initiatives, such as the [CCS Food Relief Project](#). During the post-pandemic holiday season, due to the increasing needs in our community, and thanks to a generous gift of \$10,000 from the Leo Rosner Foundation, CCS provided emergency grants of \$2,000 to five organizations that are fighting hunger in Harlem and Morningside Heights.

[Broadway Community](#)

[Cathedral Community Cares](#)

[New York Common Pantry](#)

[We Are Not Afraid Community Resource Center](#)

[Church of the Ascension Food Pantry](#)



Giving Tuesday

Giving Tuesday, often described as a global day of giving, is held each year on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving. In the 75th year Appeal, CCS Ambassadors were present for a first-ever campus-wide Giving Tuesday campaign, on both the Morningside and Manhattanville campuses, to heighten awareness about CCS.

Collectively, on this day, 94 faculty and staff gave donations totaling more than \$16,000.

CCS Volunteers in action on Giving Tuesday 2021!

Honorary Campaign Chairs

Lee C. Bollinger, Chair; President, Columbia University

Thomas R. Bailey, Co-chair; President, Teachers College

Sian Leah Beilock, Co-chair; President, Barnard College

Mary C. Boyce, Co-chair; Provost, Columbia University

Steering Committee Members

Carrie Walker, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the President, Columbia University, *Chair*

Melissa Begg, Dean, School of Social Work, Columbia University

Liz Braden, Associate Vice President, Human Resource Systems, Planning and Operation, Columbia University

Katie Conway, Vice Dean of Administration and Chief Operating Officer, Columbia Business School, Columbia University

Joan Griffith-Lee, Director, Columbia Community Service, Columbia University

Amy Hawley Alvarez, Interim Assistant Dean, Office of the Provost, Dean and Vice President for Academic Affairs; Teachers College Community School Liaison, Teachers College

Shaba R. Keys, Associate Vice President, Strategic Initiatives, Columbia University

Shailagh Murray, Executive Vice President for Public Affairs, Columbia University

Justin Pearlman, Vice Provost for Communications and Engagement, Columbia University

Mary Rocco, Director of Engaged Scholarship, Office of Community Engagement & Inclusion, Barnard College

Deborah Sack, Vice President, Operations, Office of Public Affairs, Columbia University

Lisa Seales, Vice President for Administration, Teachers College

Wilson Valentin, Associate Vice President for Communications, Columbia News, Office of Public Affairs, Columbia University

Scott Wright, Vice President, Campus Services, Columbia University

Staff

Maggie Barrows, Assistant Director of Communications, Office of Public Affairs, Columbia University

Joan Griffith-Lee, Director, Columbia Community Service, Office of Public Affairs, Columbia University

Shaba R. Keys, Associate Vice President, Strategic Initiatives, Office of Public Affairs, Columbia University

Bashar Makhay, Director of Communications, Office of Public Affairs, Columbia University

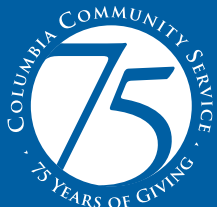
Deborah Sack, Vice President, Operations, Office of Public Affairs, Columbia University

Wilson Valentin, Associate Vice President for Communications, Columbia News, Office of Public Affairs, Columbia University



The leadership of Columbia Community Service's
75th Annual Appeal grantee organizations
Photo by Eileen Barroso

COLUMBIA COMMUNITY SERVICE



communityservice.columbia.edu

If you have further questions about this report please
contact: Shaba R. Keys, Associate Vice President, Strategic
Initiatives, Office of Public Affairs sk3785@columbia.edu

