



Unparalleled Times. Extraordinary Successes.

2019-2020 ANNUAL REPORT

DISCOVERS
STRENGTH



IYANNAH '21

Student

The 2019-20 school year, my junior year, came with many different and unexpected challenges. When it started, I felt prepared and ready because I had already experienced the flow of high school. I made sure I stayed on top of my work while juggling being a student-athlete, student ambassador and working outside of school. It was exciting to be in our new gym and cafeteria, and to celebrate our boys' basketball team's wins on the way to the state title. There was no reason to expect I wouldn't finish the year on campus, but unfortunately, because of the outbreak of COVID-19, that didn't happen. Instead we had to transition to weeks of virtual learning.

At first I was doubtful; I didn't see how it would work. So many people learn best hands-on or surrounded by others, but as a school we gave it a shot. The first week wasn't bad at all. Everything was about time management and I had a system. I attended every day at the designated time for each class. When homework was assigned I made sure I completed it. I had never really used my planner inside of school and it helped tremendously. I didn't slack just because I was at home, I treated virtual classes just like being at school.

As it wore on though, there were low moments. I missed physically being in classes with my friends, wandering around the school, and it felt like my junior experience got cut short. The good part for me was I always stayed ahead of my work so I still had time to go outside and enjoy the rest of the day. My grades improved and I was able to finish my junior year on the honor roll. Thanks to last year's experience, I knew what to expect so I was ready to start my senior year with virtual learning.

Having to adjust to these unexpected changes has taught me that I am strong enough to discover other ways to put myself where I need to be as a successful student. I'm prepared for whatever obstacles may come my way, and I'm still ready to finish on top.

Unparalleled Times. Extraordinary Successes.

VIRTUAL LEARNING. SOCIAL DISTANCING. THE NEW NORMAL.

The Academic Team finalized a two-year self-study required for reaccreditation. Following a review by external educators, the **Ohio Catholic School Accrediting Association** granted DPCR full accreditation in the spring.



Students arrived for the new school year in August, awed to gather in the newly opened Student Center with the **Linda & Harry Fath Gymnasium** and Bruin Café.



In December and May, numerous graduates of DPCR's first classes finished college and began their professional careers. **Maria Luning '15** graduated from the University of Findlay and is shown on her first day of work as a community service coordinator for the Henry County Family Court.



A surprise celebration in February marked the Class of 2020 reaching 100 percent college acceptance – the sixth year in a row for this DPCR milestone.

These phrases entered our vocabularies this past year and only begin to touch upon all of the challenges and opportunities of school year 2019-20, inside and outside the DePaul Cristo Rey community. Yet there was much to celebrate at DPCR well before the pandemic's impact began in March.

Despite unparalleled challenges, DePaul Cristo Rey had extraordinary fundraising success this past year. The 8th annual **Golf Classic** in September, **Champions of Change Breakfast** in October, and virtual **Rey of Light** Scholarship Benefit in June combined to raise \$724,000 in support of the school.

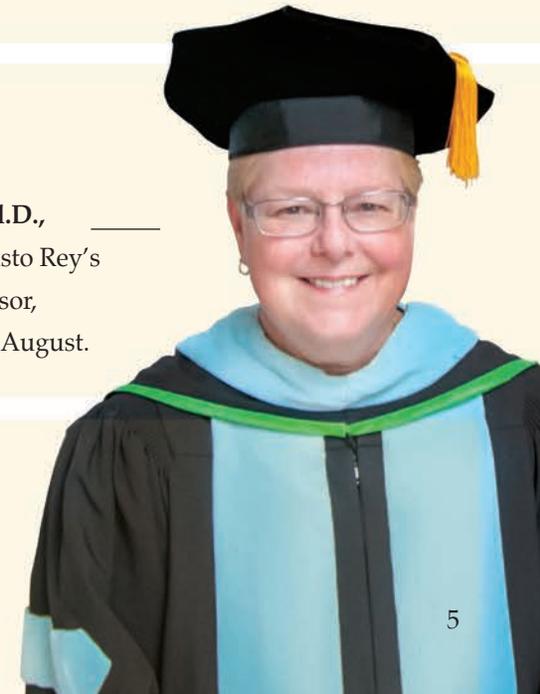


Excitement built in March as the boys basketball team headed to the state OCSAA final (Ohio Christian School Athletic Association). On March 7, they clinched it – a school first – and due to the pandemic, became the only Greater Cincinnati basketball team with a state title.

In late February, local business leaders gathered for a recognition breakfast celebrating their commitment to the **Corporate Work Study Program**. Nine businesses and organizations were honored for five years of partnership and **Corporex Companies, LLC** was saluted as Corporate Partner of the Year.



As the school year closed, **Sister Jeanne Bessette, OSF, Ed.D.**, ended her tenure as DePaul Cristo Rey's founding president. Her successor, **Siobhan Taylor**, was named in August.



MOLDS
FUTURE
LEADERS



RICKEY YOUNGER

Teacher

From the first time that I stepped onto our campus to the final assignment that I graded, my first year as a teacher at DePaul Cristo Rey was truly a memorable experience. Our school year commenced with an assembly in the new gymnasium. After our scholars quieted their stories of summer, the new staff took center stage and were introduced to the student body. When it was my turn to greet everyone, the crowd erupted. Wow! I had never experienced such a warm welcome before.

Following the assembly, a group of students introduced themselves and we engaged in conversation as we walked to our first class. I knew that I had found a home at DPCR. Overall, my first day was phenomenal and when I exited my classroom I floated all the way to my vehicle in a cloud of happiness. This sense of euphoria was short-lived, as my car was decorated with a parking ticket. My “cloud of happiness” had abruptly burst. At that time, I did not know that this theme of peaks and valleys, or opportunities and challenges, would largely frame the entire year.

Did I mention that I was a math teacher? While the students may have been initially fond of my personality, their relationship with math was most often characterized as “complicated.” Instead of being discouraged, our math department worked to instill a growth mindset that values mistakes as a vital component to learning. In addition, we utilized rich tasks that allowed all students to truly immerse themselves in math in a unique way. We worked together to overcome each obstacle and moved toward changing the negative stigma often associated with mathematics.

After months of working with exceptional colleagues and students, I was poised to finish the year ahead of the milestones that I initially set. These plans were halted as our school and country were paralyzed by the rapid spread of COVID-19 and “normal” slowly disappeared. In merely weeks, teachers were forced to learn new tools and ways to deliver effective instruction, while our students and families had to quickly adapt to new methods of learning. Although the challenge of COVID-19 was/is certainly daunting, it has shown both the students and staff the importance of individual and organizational adaptability and community support.

My first year at DPCR will be one that I remember forever. While the challenges were unparalleled at times, they were significantly overshadowed by the fun we shared, lessons we learned, and bonds that we forged. As the world continues to change around us, the educators at DePaul Cristo Rey will continue to mold future leaders that can guide our world with faith, hope and humility.

2019-2020 At A Glance



304
Students
Enrolled



Seniors Accepted
to College



Full Tuition
College Scholarships
Class of 2020



Million Earned in
College Scholarships
by Class of 2020



Boys State
Basketball Title –
A School First!



of Students
Met or Exceeded
Corporate Work
Study Supervisor
Expectations



1,140
Hours of
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Above Class
Required Service



in Student Earnings
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OVERCOMES

OBSTACLES



FREDY AYALA '20

Graduate

All I can say is that 2020 will be a year to remember. It was supposed to be a special one for us seniors as we transitioned to become alumni and college freshmen. I started senior year with a great sense of relief, knowing I would be graduating from high school, receiving my diploma, and starting my journey as an adult. My classmates and I were happy to finally get to do all the things seniors do their last year of high school, but not everything went the way we planned.

In February the whole school celebrated our class achieving 100 percent college acceptance. By March most of the stressful things of senior year were out of the way and our senior fun was supposed to begin – senior lock-in, having bake sales and fundraisers, and the event that kept us motivated: graduation. Coincidentally, this was the same time that the new type of coronavirus, now known as COVID-19, started making itself known as a danger to humankind. Due to this, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine ordered all schools closed from March 16 until April 3, but this order stayed in place until the end of the school year.

That March day changed everything. Obviously all of our senior events were cancelled. We were devastated at the fact that senior year was cut short. The worst thing of all was not having a formal graduation as the ultimate form of recognition for 12 years of hard work. Yet, even despite these circumstances, the members of the Class of 2020 strived to make our mark at DPCR. We achieved 100 percent college acceptance, received millions of dollars in scholarship money, and overcame obstacles to prosper. I became the first one in my family to commit to college after earning a full-tuition scholarship to Xavier University.

Yes, the end of our senior year was tough, but we all continued to get through this unfortunate time. This year might've changed the definition of normal and the way we live life, but it doesn't change the definition of community and the family we seniors created over our four years at DePaul Cristo Rey.

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Barbara Bennie

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S. Kathryn Ann Connelly, SC

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Gail Kist-Kline and Keith Kline

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Rick Beers

Andy Cassady

Jamie Charlton

Jim Daffin

Mike Dooley

Alex Ewing

Laura Funke

Abby Held

Katie Hoekzema

Andrew Horning

Laura Hunter

Lauren Joseph

Niki Krebs

Tom Lieser

Brett Macht

Steve McDevitt

Anne Megerle

Brad McPeck

Tommy Muething

Lisa Muething

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Joe Sunderman

Kelley Tracy

Anne Uchtman

Neil Ursic

Mike Veith

Maria Welsh

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Every effort has been made to provide a complete and error-free list. If your name was overlooked or listed improperly, please accept our apologies and contact us to correct the error. The Advancement Office can be reached at 513.861.0600.

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2019-2020

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Operations

2019-2020

REVENUE

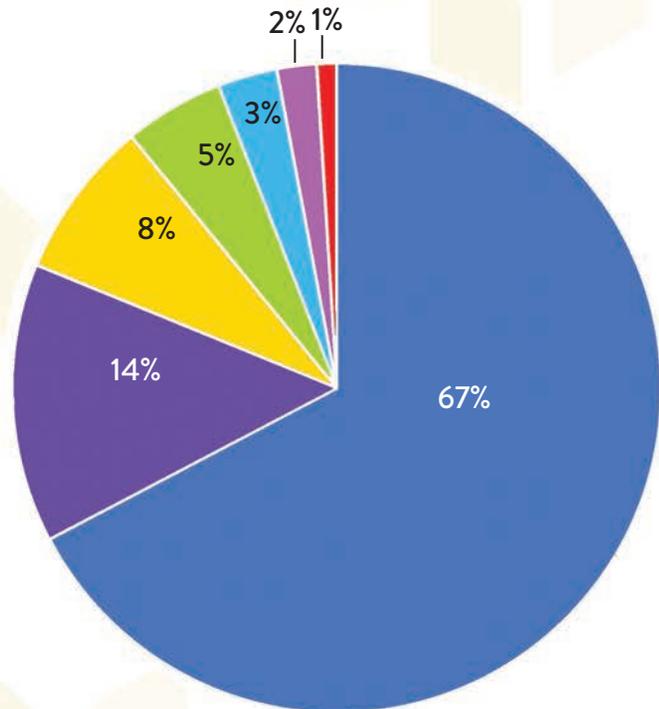
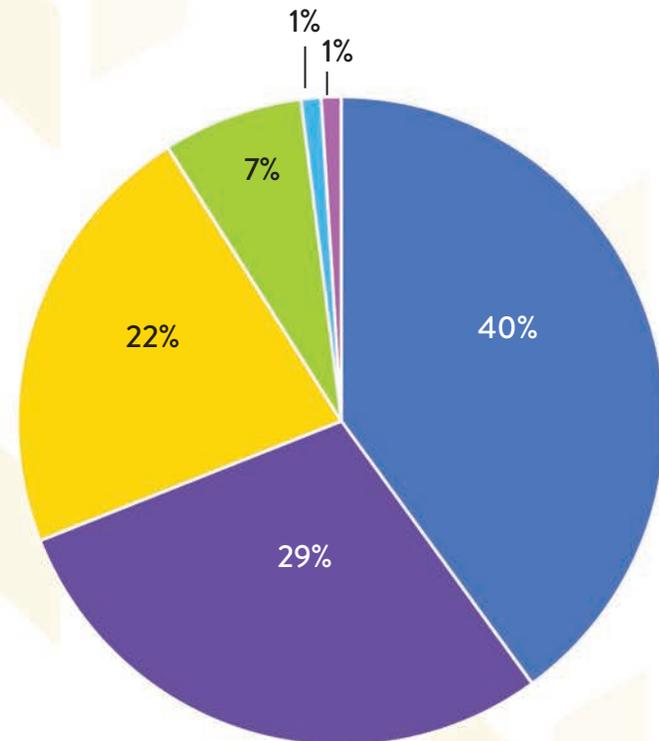
Advancement	\$2,551,490
CWSP.....	\$1,838,081
EdChoice	\$1,387,200
Government Programs.....	\$454,291
Tuition & Fees.....	\$72,588
Other	\$49,065

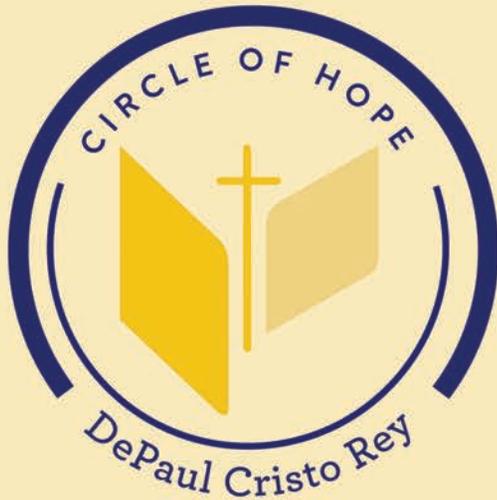
TOTAL\$6,352,715

EXPENSES

Personnel	\$4,102,461
Facilities	\$833,945
Student Support	\$487,360
Transportation	\$315,770
Communications	\$162,315
Professional Services	\$116,302
Other	\$43,912

TOTAL\$6,062,065





Join the Circle of Hope

Even though DePaul Cristo Rey has only begun its tenth year, we know a strong legacy program must be in place to ensure long-term financial stability. DPCR established the Circle of Hope several years ago to help ensure bright futures for our students and alumni, and to recognize those who have provided funds for the benefit of future generations.

Generous friends have included DePaul Cristo Rey in their estate plans. Through an estate gift, you, too, can provide support for future generations of young Cincinnatians. We invite you to consider joining the Circle of Hope; by making a legacy gift you can make a lasting difference.

For more information on the Circle of Hope, contact Sparkle Worley, Vice President of Advancement, at sparkle.worley@dpcr.net or 513.861.0600, ext. 320.



FOLLOWING

A PATH



PATRICIA ROBERTSON

Chair, Board of Directors

I grew up in a small, rural Missouri town, the daughter of a blue-collar worker and a stay-at-home mom. Most of my friends did not go to college, but the thought of not going never entered my mind; I was the first in my family to go to college. Cobbling together jobs and modest scholarships in order to pay for tuition and everything else, I took extra heavy course loads so I could graduate a semester early, saving money and getting into the job market sooner.

My journey since college has opened my eyes and my heart to a bigger world. My experiences have included many leadership roles and due to those experiences, I encountered incredible mentors along the way. I believe that you never know for sure why God is taking you down a certain path, which often seems to meander, but I also believe that He provides you with the guidance needed to stay on that path.

I came to DePaul Cristo Rey to serve on the Advancement Committee in 2011, the year the school opened with just one class of freshmen. Three years later, after helping launch the Rey of Light fundraising event, I joined the Board of Directors. While on the Board I have witnessed six classes graduate and have been a part of the process approving the capital campaign and raising \$20.8 million. I have watched the physical campus transform from a little grade school building to a state-of-the-art high school with a gym, a modern kitchen and cafeteria, and a three-story academic building with spacious classrooms and hallways. This transformation allows us to increase enrollment and strengthen academics, while it provides an environment for them to achieve their goals and follow their dreams. In the years to come, this facility will attract even more students and families, qualified faculty and staff, and Board Members – but it is what happens inside which will make a difference in the lives of our students and in our city.

This school year (2020-2021) is my last as chair of the Board and I will leave knowing that the path God created for me has served in the journey toward a kinder, more equitable world and that the future of DePaul Cristo Rey is very bright!

1133 Clifton Hills Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45220

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Visit our web site at depaulcristorey.org

