# **2017 ANNUAL REPORT**

















# Reflections...

# on the 2016–2017 School Year

Dear Friends,

The 2016-2017 School Year was a great beginning to our new chapter as Mercy Career & Technical High School (Mercy CTE). Thanks to your generous support, Mercy CTE continues to open doors and create opportunities for our students. With your help, our graduates leave empowered and ready to continue on their path. Whether they are heading off to college or a trade school, entering the workforce or both, Mercy CTE students succeed!

We are especially proud of the Class of 2017:

- 52% went on to postsecondary education (2 or 4 year colleges, trade schools and/or training programs)
- 35% directly entered full-time employment
- 12% are working and continuing their education
- 1% entered the military

Our graduates were also awarded over \$2.3M in scholarships, grants and merit awards to attend universities, community colleges and/or career and technical schools!

In addition to the generous support of our benefactors, our teachers are constantly opening up new pathways of knowledge and experience for our students. Our personal and nurturing pedagogy is what separates Mercy Career & Technical from the rest. Our faculty and staff continue to be living, breathing examples of our mission: preparing students for rewarding careers and a non-traditional path to higher education. Their commitment to our mission is unparalleled.

Mercy CTE students are fine young men and women who are eager, talented and full of potential. I ask that you continue to join with me in taking the time to get to know these students. Following are just some of the ways in which you can support this unique mission:

Become a Co-Op Employer or introduce us to businesses that are interested in quality employees. Co-Op employers benefit by having employees who are highly competent, compassionate, contributing members of the global community. Mercy students show up to work on-time and are eager to learn.

Consider joining Mercy's Occupational Advisory Council. As a member, you will meet with the career and technical teachers twice per year to discuss the latest industry happenings. These discussions provide direction for the future of the career and technical programs, ensuring that Mercy's students are obtaining the most valuable industry-recognized certifications.

Introduce us to other like-minded people who would consider becoming a Mercy Career & Technical High School benefactor.

Benefactors provide the opportunity for students to receive a Catholic education and a comprehensive, academic, career and technical school experience which will prepare them for the workforce and/or post-secondary education.

Check out the tax benefits for Mercy CTE for your business through the EITC/OSTC Programs. If your company does business in Pennsylvania, and you have not taken advantage of directing funds to Mercy Career & Technical High School through EITC and OSTC, I ask you to consider this critically important opportunity.

EITC (Educational Improvement Tax Credit) and OSTC (Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit) divert the business taxes owed to Harrisburg, to tuition assistance for our students. This school year, the EITC and OSTC program provided 167 of our 325 students with financial aid grants ranging from \$500 to full tuition grants. Almost every student at Mercy is eligible to receive funding through OSTC because the alternative is a failing Philadelphia public school.

Your partnership with us ensures a successful future for young Mercy men and women. We invite you to come to 2900 W. Hunting Park Avenue and meet our students. View our website www.mercycte.org to learn more about how your investment will increase in value as our graduates launch their careers. We know you won't be disappointed.

I know first-hand that these students are more than worthy of your investment!

Sincerely,

Sister Rosemary Herron, RSM

Liter Rownery Herron, Roth.

President



Dear Friends of Mercy CTE,

I am grateful for the contributions and assistance that you do for our deserving and talented students. As their Principal. I can tell you that our students are definitely worth the many ways that you invest in their futures. On their behalf, I thank you.

In the 2016-2017 school year, Mercy Vocational High School changed its name to reflect the ever-changing, ever-improving Career and Technical endeavors and Academic pursuits. We are constantly improving the skills we teach our students to prepare them for the 21st Century and the jobs that exist, and more importantly, may exist in the future.

With all our changes come several important "constants".

Our Administration, faculty and staff keep the students first and make their dedication come alive in their actions and encouragements. It is no consequence that the students feel "at home" during their hours and days at school. Our students learn to believe in themselves because the Mercy adults believe in them. This belief in our students translates into extra help before and after school, time listening to their stories, and explanations for better decisions. They know that any Mercy adult is ready to lend a hand.

Our teachers search for the next best way to introduce a concept and to adjust a curriculum to meet the needs of our students. That spirit of "always improving" contributes to the great strides our students make. Allowing them to have experiences with a 3-D printer, Virtual Reality, music and math experiments plus lessons on personal skills are all subjects of grants this year to improve instruction next year. By modelling life-long learning, the teachers pass along one of the best lessons of all.

Our students are resilient, capable of rising above their challenges and capitalizing on their opportunities. Their daily efforts are praiseworthy and noteworthy. It is a privilege for this Principal to watch them grow from September to June for all four years. We, as Mercy adults, add our efforts to the efforts of the parents, guardians and family members, who choose to make the sacrifices needed to send their children to Mercy CTE.

In conclusion, I want to thank you for your part in providing such a quality educational experience for our students in this school year and to encourage you to be one of the "constants" in the years to come.

Gratefully,

Stater Swan Walsh, R.S.M.

Sister Susan

Proud Principal of Mercy Career & Technical High School

# Forging Futures with Faith and Focus

# 2017 FALL FUNDRAISER





On Thursday, October 5, 2017, Mercy Career & Technical High School hosted the **Second Annual: Forging Futures Fall Fundraiser Event** at the Presidential Caterers in East Norriton. The highlight of the evening program was honoring four members of the Mercy family with the Work of Mercy Award: Jim Clearkin, Mary & Bill DiSipio and Ed Mullin.

Jim, Mary & Bill and Ed truly witness the spiritual and corporal works of mercy in their personal and professional lives. In their remarks that night, each of them recognized the call of mercy to direct service as well as to systemic change. Through their generosity they have provided educational and career opportunities for our young men and women of Mercy in order to bring this charism to life. They are living examples of Catherine McAuley's words: "We ought to have great confidence in God in the discharge of our works of mercy, the business of our lives..."

Jim Clearkin has been serving the Mercy CTE community for over 20 years. During these years, he has been a dynamic member of the Board of Trustees, spending time as both our Board Chair and most recently Vice-Chair. Our buildings are over a century-old; thus, a lot of maintenance and upkeep are required; Jim's family and company, James J. Clearkin, Inc., work to ensure that our facilities are advanced and up-to-date.

Mary & Bill DiSipio are fervent supporters of our students. Bill has been a Co-Op employer to our students for many years. Students go to work at his law firm, Lavin, O'Neil, Cedrone & DiSipio, where they learn clerical skills and office etiquette. Mary has faithfully served our community as a member of the Advancement Committee. Together they live out our mission daily and continuously find new ways to support our students.

**Ed Mullin** is a long-time benefactor of Mercy CTE. While serving on our Board of Trustees, Ed has introduced us to many of our benefactors. He continuously brings us new faces to enter into our unique mission. Ed introduced Mercy CTE to the William and Muriel Elliott Foundation, whose generosity provided us with \$1.5 million dollars in grant monies.

While the spotlight was focused primarily on our honorees, we also took the opportunity to share plans for expanding and enhancing many of our career paths and introduced our newest venture, something seemingly out of this world: a **Virtual Reality classroom!** Our students and tech experts demonstrated how this innovative technology will yet again bring Mercy Career & Technical High School to the cutting edge of academic and career education in Philadelphia and the surrounding areas.

Thank you to all our Honorees, Sponsors, Contributors and Attendees who together helped us raise nearly \$300,000! We are deeply grateful to everyone who supported, and we are excited for another successful event next year.









#### **MAJOR SPONSORS**

#### **Honorary Sponsor**

Sisters of Mercy of the Americas Hermanas de la Misercordia

#### \$15,000 Mentor Sponsors

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# SCHOOL YEAR 2017-2018 HIGHLIGHTS

# Overview of Mercy Career & **Technical High School Today**

### Our Students

94% of Mercy Career & Technical HS students are "at-risk." (defined by federal guidelines as those with learning disabilities, severe domestic disturbance, neighborhood violence, low family income, chronic illness, etc.)

**92%** of families receive some form of financial assistance.

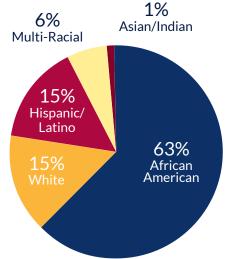
**39%** of Mercy CTE's student body is Catholic.

61% are students of other faiths.



cost to educate each student \$12,500

tuition \$8,068



### Our School

The ONLY Catholic co-educational career and technical education high school in the country.

Our Cooperative Education Program allows seniors to gain professional experience in their chosen career fields.

Mercy offers extensive guidance counseling and emotional support services, including employing a full-time, in-house Social Worker.

Mercy's caring, dedicated and experienced faculty fosters an environment that is safe and conducive to learning.



# 97% average daily attendance rate

- Nationally recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and the Council for American Private Education as a *School of Excellence*
- Commended by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia as "a valuable alternative to a comprehensive academic program"
- Reaccredited by the Middle States Association in 2014 until May 1, 2021

# In June of 2017, Mercy CTE graduated 61 students:

- **52%** will go on to postsecondary education (2 or 4 year colleges, trade schools and/or training programs)
- 35% will directly enter full-time employment
- 12% will work and continue their education
- 1% will enter the military

We are particularly proud of the fact that the Class of 2017 graduates were awarded over \$2.3M in scholarships and merit awards to attend career and technical schools, community colleges and four-year institutions of higher learning.

# We measure our success through the outcomes and achievements of our students. Below list the outcomes for the Class of 2017:

- 100% of the Nurse Aide Training Program graduates successfully completed the Nursing Assistant Training Program and are certified by the State of Pennsylvania.
- 100% of the Cosmetology graduates successfully complete their 1,250 hours of cosmetology training and are fully licensed in the state of Pennsylvania.
- 100% of the Business Education graduates earned Microsoft Office Specialist certifications in Word, Excel and PowerPoint.
- 100% of the Culinary Arts graduates earned their National Restaurant Association Education Foundation ManageFirst Nutrition certification and their ServSafe certification.
- 90% of the Building Trades students earned their OSHA 30 certification and 79% earned their National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) Core certification
- 95% of the Computer Tech graduates earned their CompTIA Strata IT Fundamentals
  certification and their Adobe Illustrator certification. 88% earned their Adobe Photoshop
  certification and their CIW Site Development certification.

#### THE STUDENT AMBASSADOR

PROGRAM continues to enhance our students' professional and public speaking skills. Student ambassadors help demonstrate the mission of Mercy CTE by exemplifying leadership, academic excellence and a compassionate Mercy spirit. Ambassadors participate in various functions including, but not limited to, meeting benefactors, prospective students and their families and acting as tour guides of the school's campus and programs.

"My favorite thing about my school is the diversity of opportunities. From public speaking practice in the Student Ambassador Program to my Co-Op job this year, there is so much that I have learned and it is all thanks to Mercy CTE."

— Serena Sanderson (Health Occupations) '18

# **Students** Earn Industry-Recognized Certifications

#### **BUILDING TRADES**

CERTIFICATIONS: National Center for Construction Education & Research, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 10 & 30 safety certifications

#### **CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:**

- Facility Technician
- Union Apprentice
- Williamson College of the Trades
- Property Maintenance





CERTIFICATIONS: CompTIA IT Fundamentals, CompTIA A+, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 10

COMPUTER SERVICE TECHNICIAN

#### **CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:**

- Computer User Support Specialist Computer Network Architect
- Network and Computer **Systems Administrator**
- Computer Operator
- Computer Network Support Specialist
- Information Security Analyst
- Video Game Designer

#### **BUSINESS EDUCATION**

CERTIFICATIONS: Microsoft® Office Specialist Certification in Word, Excel and PowerPoint, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 10 certified

#### **CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:**

- Administrative Assistant
   Bill and Account Collector
- Accountant
- Receptionist and Information Clerk
- Office Assistant Bookkeeper
- Teller





#### ADVERTISING ART AND WEB DESIGN

CERTIFICATIONS: Adobe Certified Associate: Photoshop, Adobe Certified Associate: Illustrator, CIW Site Development, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 10

#### **CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:**

- Graphic Designer
- Web Designer/Developer
- Content Developer
- Multimedia Artist and Animator

#### **COSMETOLOGY**

CERTIFICATIONS: Pennsylvania State Cosmetology License, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 10 certified

#### **CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:**

- Cosmetology Instructor/ School Director
- Platform Artist
- State Board License Inspector
- Cruise Ship Stylist
- Wig Manager/Consultant
- Hairstylist/Salon Owner
- Entertainment Stylist





#### **CULINARY**

CERTIFICATIONS: ManageFirst Nutrition, ServSafe, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 10

#### **CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:**

- Cook (prep, line, pastry)
- Cafeteria attendant
- Hotel coffee break attendant
- Assistant banquet chef
- Banquet cook
- Catering cook
- Restaurants, schools, food service management companies, hotels, resorts, hospitals, private homes, test kitchens

#### **HEALTH OCCUPATIONS**

CERTIFICATIONS: PA Nursing Assistant, CPR certification, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 10

#### **CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:**

- Nursing Home
- Adult Day Care center
- Physician's Office
- Acute Care Setting





# Our Mission

Mercy Career & Technical High School is a private, urban, co-educational, career and technical education high school sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy. Within a 21st century learning environment, we provide a Catholic education and a comprehensive. academic, career and technical school experience which prepares students for the workforce and/or post-secondary education. In the Mercy tradition, we live the Gospel in word and action and promote service to others. The Mercy Career and Technical High School graduate is a highly competent, compassionate, contributing member of the global community.

## We Believe

Every individual has inherent worth and dignity.

Moral and spiritual development is absolutely essential.

Our students are blessed with gifts and talents that are better served through career & technical education.

Risk-taking is essential for school improvement.

Within a culturally diverse environment, we can build tolerance, respect, and understanding.

Life-long learning is a shared responsibility of students, teachers, family, and community.

All students are an investment in the future.

We are called to serve others.

#### OCCUPATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL (OAC)

Along with the Corporate Partner Program, each career and technical program has an Occupational Advisory Council (OAC). The members of these councils bring additional resources to the students and the career and technical education programs. These resources include guest speakers, on-site visits to employment places and equipment for the shop. The Corporate Partner Program, OAC and our instructors all work to graduate a responsible, skilled student.

Mercy CTE Co-Op Program is a joint venture between Mercy and area businesses and industries, offering Mercy seniors on-the-job training in their chosen career fields. We pride ourselves at Mercy on our ability to keep expanding our students' job horizons by making sure that our students learn first-hand the importance of job-ready skills, the value of punctuality and good attendance, the need to be flexible in one's workplace tasks, the advantages of dressing professionally, and many other interpersonal skills crucial to the continued health of our communities and businesses.

Since 2000, the following companies have employed Mercy CTE students in either Co-Op positions or hired them as full-time employees after graduation:

ABC (Associated Builders and GRM Contractors) ACE Conference Center Acro Display, Inc. American Infrastructure American Kitchen Machinery and Repair Company, Inc. Andorra Pediatrics Aramark Archdiocese of Philadelphia Arthur Works Asociación Puertorriquenos en Marcha Au Bon Pain Auxilio @ Mercy Fitzgerald Hospital Auxilio @ Mercy Hospital of Philadelphia Auxilio @ Nazareth Hospital of Philadelphia Auxilio @ Mercy Suburban Hospital Bauer Law BAYADA Home Health Care Boland Wood Working, Inc. Bonacorsi Wood Working **Boyle Brothers Energy** Caddick Construction Campus Apartments Caribu Café Cenova Company Chipotle Christi Insurance Concord Inc. Covenant House Cutting Edge Wood Shop DJ Divine Inspirations Wm J. Donavan Co. Doyle Designs Drexel University College of Medicine **Dugan Construction** Elder Watch Plus **Elliott Lewis** Elkins Crest Florkowski Builders

Fox Chase Cancer Center

Fringe Salon and Spa

Givens Corporation

Independence Mission School (IMS) **IMS Advancement** IMS: DePaul IMS: Holy Cross IMS: Our Mother of Sorrows & St. Cyril IMS: St. Thomas Aquinas IMS: St. Barnabas IMS: St. Frances Cabrini IMS: St. Gabriel & St. Veronica Philadelphia Tramrail IMS: St. Helena Incarnation IMS: St. Malachy IMS: St. Martin de Porres IMS: St. Martin of Tours IMS: St. Raymond IMS: St. Rose of Lima Iron Workers Union Jefferson Hospital JPM Catering Klover Construction Lady Farrell Salon Lafayette Redeemer LaSalle University Lavin, O'Neil, Cedrone & DiSipio Leone Computer Linton's Managed Services Little Flower Manor Lockheed Martin Lowes Lynch Horstmann Construction Services LLC Mercy CTE Advancement

Magee Rehabilitation Hospital Mercy Neighborhood Ministries MGM Industries Office Noir Hair **Northeast Plastics** Oteri's Bakery

Paper Rock Scissors Pasianos Restaurant Center

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Company E. Allen Reeves Reliable Printing Ride Avenue Elder Care The riff group Roxborough YMCA Roz's Baked Goodies Sisters of Mercy Merion Spa Elysium

PTR Baler & Compactor

Department

St. Christopher School St. Hilary of Poitiers School St. Ignatius Nursing Home St. Joseph Manor St. Joseph Villa

Stogie Joe's Passyunk Tavern Subway

T.A. Head and Son T.N. Ward Company Tague Lumber Temple Health System The Salvation Army Kroc Center of Philadelphia Top of the Line Inc. Union League

Unique Experience Salon University Campus Housing University of Pennsylvania **Urban Health Initiatives** Visual Innovations Wee Tots Daycare



"Remember, if there were a hundred regulations to be observed, the most important is charity."

—Catherine McAuley, Foundress of the Sisters of Mercy

#### SISTERS OF MERCY

The Sisters of Mercy Mid-Atlantic Community have proudly supported Mercy Career & Technical High School since its founding in 1950. Our mission is directly linked to the desire of Catherine McAuley, foundress of the Sisters of Mercy, to bring compassion and healing to those in need and to empower them with the necessary tools to achieve their goals. Sisters of Mercy also seek to influence change in our social and political systems by advocating for accessible and affordable housing, health care, and education, especially for immigrants and women and children. Sisters of Mercy also support peaceful solutions to conflicts and responsible care and use of the resources of the Earth. Prayer, contemplation, and community enhance their mission of service.

Presently nine Sisters serve in this mission, joining with lay faculty to provide high-quality educational opportunities to students whose needs are best served by an education that provides the skills for immediate entrance into the work force. In addition, for these past sixty-seven years, the Sisters of Mercy have contributed their services and significant financial support to this unique institution, ensuring that students graduate with marketable skills, a powerful work ethic, a strong sense of self, and a sense of service to others.

#### THE CHARLES E. ELLIS TRUST

The Charles E. Ellis Trust for Girls helps young women of limited financial means, living in single-parent homes, enhance their highschool experience and prepare for post-secondary success. The Trust fosters academic and personal growth by offering meaningful and high-impact opportunities for young women. Today, more than 100 years after his death, Charles Ellis' trust fund continues to foster young women's academic and personal growth and remains dedicated to making a difference in the lives of high-school girls in Philadelphia.

For over twenty years the Charles E. Ellis Trust has opened doors to a bright and promising future for hundreds of girls at Mercy Career & Technical High School. In the 2017-2018 school year, the Charles E. Ellis Trust provided \$213,000 in tuition-assistance grants to seventy-one girls.

#### PENNSYLVANIA CONVENTION CENTER

For the past twenty four years the Pennsylvania Convention Center's funding has made a critical difference in Mercy Career & Technical High School's





ability to educate students for the workforce of this region. Based upon a long history of achievements, Mercy became a recipient of the Pennsylvania Convention Center Education and Training Fund in 1992 to develop and implement a hospitality and tourism program. The \$278,667 award from the Pennsylvania Convention Center for FY 17 funds three core training areas of the Mercy CTE's curriculum: Building Trades, Business Education and Culinary Arts. Mercy continues to serve a diverse student population from every neighborhood of Philadelphia.

Fiscal operations of Mercy CTE are well managed. While we are comfortable in "doing more with less," we continue to consistently provide the finest career and technical education training and academic education to an urban student population in an economy that is increasingly technology-based. The Pennsylvania Convention Center and Mercy Career & Technical High School are creating the future hospitality and tourism workforce including the future chefs, business professionals, carpenters, and electricians who will remain largely in the Philadelphia region and, therefore, serve the needs of the residents and businesses of the Delaware Valley.

Our partnership with the Pennsylvania Convention Center Authority allows Mercy CTE to provide a unique education to high school students that they might otherwise not be able to afford. None of this comes without its challenges. These challenges present a real financial need that must be met with an infusion of resources as well as a broader partnership with the community.

Our partnership with the Pennsylvania Convention Center continues to be one of our most important relationships. This partnership helps to fulfill not only Mercy's unique urban career and technical education mission, but also helps the Pennsylvania Convention Center Authority fulfill its mission of "promoting, attracting, stimulating, developing and expanding business, industry, commerce and tourism within the City of Philadelphia, surrounding counties and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania."

### **GRANTS & GIFTS**

#### MISERICORDIA SOCIETY

\$50,000-\$999,999

Anonymous

**BAYADA Home Health Care** 

Catholic Philopatrian Literary Institute

H. A. Quinn Enterprises

Henkels Foundation

The Maguire Foundation

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#### CIRCLE OF MERCY SOCIETY

\$25,000-\$49,999

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Catholic Schools

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Wilkie Lexus

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WSFS Bank

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\$1,000-\$4,999

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Up to \$999

**Anonymous** 

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Sister Anne Woodeschick, RSM

Ms. Cecilia Moy Yep Mr. & Mrs. Stephen C. Young

Ms. Getrude J. Ziga Mr. Carl Zuckerman

## **GRANTS & GIFTS**





# Restricted Grants and Gifts at Mercy CTE

#### **CONNELLY FOUNDATION**

The Connelly Foundation has supported hundreds of Mercy CTE students throughout the years via their scholarship programs. Thanks to the Connelly Foundation more students in Philadelphia have the opportunity to study at Mercy CTE and create a better path towards their future.

#### **EMERGENCY CHRISTMAS FUND**

Every year benefactors contribute to our Emergency Christmas Fund which allows Mercy to provide gifts for our families who can't afford to be Santa Claus. Our families are always extremely grateful for these gifts, as we are always extremely grateful for the generosity of our benefactors.

#### WILLIAM AND MURIEL ELLIOTT FOUNDATION

In keeping with his wishes, the William and Muriel Elliott Foundation was created from his estate after his wife passed away in 2010. (Mr. Elliott died in 1989.) The Foundation focuses on funding education. Mercy Career & Technical High School benefited greatly from the foundations generosity. Since the foundation's inception, Mercy CTE has received over \$1.5 million to support its students. It is said that he believed that real progress comes from those who are able to see the future. He felt it was his responsibility to mentor and support those people with vision. For that vision, Mercy CTE is extremely grateful.

#### **FALL BETWEEN THE CRACKS FUND**

Was started by a generous anonymous couple of the Mercy family. The fund provides money for Mercy CTE students who suddenly come upon financial shortfalls that prevent them from moving forward. For example, when a parent passes and a student cannot afford to go to the Prom, this fund would cover the costs of ticket and even a dress! We thank all our supporters for helping our students overcome these hurdles.

#### **IMPACT PHILLY**

IMPACT Philly started in 2015 in the Business Education Department. IMPACT Philly uses the Design Thinking method to help students address meaningful challenges in the Philadelphia community. Projects included—sustainable food options for families in low-income neighborhoods, speaker series at middle schools focusing on anti-gun violence in Philadelphia, a dog show turned pet adoption opportunity, and so many more.

#### PATRICIA KIND FOUNDATION

The Patricia Kind Foundation has awarded Mercy CTE three years of funding our social worker. Our social worker, Ms. MT Lopata plays a major role throughout the school ensuring all of students have someone to go to with issues both in and out of school.

#### **NEUBAUER FAMILY FOUNDATION**

Sister Susan Walsh, Principal, was awarded as a Neubauer Fellowship in the 2016-2017 school year. As part of the Fellowship, the Neubauer Family Foundation also gave funding to Mercy CTE to cover the costs of an exciting program—Excellence with Integrity. This program aims to bring students and teachers together and helps teachers tackle classroom situations with out-of-the-box ideas and workshops.

#### ALUMNI ASSOCIATION DONORS

At Mercy Career & Technical High School, our Alumni are strong believers in Catholic education, particularly in the Mercy tradition of service to others. They consistently express strong sentiments about how their teachers challenged, encouraged, cared, and expected them to succeed. Mercy CTE Alumni value the fact that their classmates came from all over the city, and while these students may have had different life challenges, they all shared a desire to begin careers. They are all grateful that Mercy prepared them for the "real world" of work and life. To that end, they have strong feelings about contributing to the Mercy CTE Alumni Association in order to provide tuition assistance to continue Forging Futures with Faith and Focus.

This is just one of many messages we receive every year from our graduates who have been launched into successful careers because of your financial support!

"After graduating from Mercy I worked as a janitor at the University of Pennsylvania, taking classes in the evening, earning my BA degree in Urban Studies in 2010. I've worked directly for mayoral candidates and members of Congress as the Manager of External Affairs for Philabundance, and presently I'm Executive Director of The Philadelphia Parks Alliance. Through all of this. what inspired me, and all of us at school, was the Mercy Spirit, that intangible spirit, that gives us the ability to reach higher both within ourselves and our community."

— George Matysik '99

#### **ALUMNI DONORS**

#### 1950's

Mary Anne Scully Suter'57 Eleanor Carr Hagan '58

#### 1960's

Thomas Keating '62

#### 1970's

Ernest Rodriguez '78

**Doris Courtnye** Calderwood '85 Bruce Sokorai '86 Stephanie Teagle '88

#### 1990's

Margaret Mary Musial '91 William F. Matsinger '93 Karen Thomer '97 George Matysik, Jr. '99 Michael Haber '99 Stavros Chatzistamatis '99

#### 2000's

Matthew Carrigan '08 Thomas Crouthers '02 Richard Dougherty '04 Migdalia Gonzalez '04 Mollie Persico '09

#### 2010's

Olivia Marszalek '12 Samantha Ludwig '12

#### Class of 2017

Jonte Antoine '17 Isiah Armstrong '17 Renaldo Askew '17 Elaisha Bagwell '17 Brianna Baugh '17 Sean Benner '17 Gillian Boland '17 Khari Bradley '17 Alisha Bristol '17 Anisa Brooks '17 Tai Brvan '17 Brittany Bucher '17 Garrett Callender '17 Dominic Cardone '17 Kavla Concannon '17 Tara Crews '17 Tyhee Curtis Jr '17 Adonis Davis '17 Jose Delorbe '17 Luke Dependahl '17 Michael DiDomenico '17 Rakeam Dorsev '17 Brian Ehly '17 Alexses Epps '17 Namaiiah Faison '17 Delvy Francisco '17 Juan German '17 Sema'j Gonsalves '17 Zayne Gonzalez '17 Dorian Gooding Jr. '17 Carlos Guadarrama '17 Aiyana Martinez-Houser '17 Karina Infante '17 Eriq Jefferson '17

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#### SISTER RAYMOND MARY CLINE, RSM, SCHOLARSHIP

Each year, the Alumni Association awards a rising senior the Sister Raymond Mary, RSM, Scholarship, in memory of the beloved Sister of Mercy and Mercy CTE faculty member from 1973-2008. Sister Raymond Mary worked for over thirty years as a Business Education teacher, moderated school activities, and at one point oversaw the building and maintenance staff. Each year our Administration selects a junior student who embodies Mercy charism in his or her life and is a well-rounded, performing student. Bao Nghi Tran was awarded the scholarship for school year 2016-2017, and Savannah Nolan-Lightfoot is the current recipient for 2017-2018.







# Fund for Mercy Families

The Fund for Mercy Families provides the families of prospective and current students with financial assistance so that they can enjoy a quality education at Mercy. In FY 17 the cost of educating each student at Mercy Career & Technical High School for one year was \$12,500. Parents contributed up to \$8,068 in tuition. All parents and guardians pay a portion of the tuition to the school because it is important that families are investing in the education of their students. Some students need almost the entire amount of tuition covered, while others need tuition stipends to augment their families' income. The recipients of this funding often face multiple challenges that give new meaning to the term "at risk."

In the 2016-2017 school year, approximately 92% of our students came from households that qualified for financial aid, and all of our students received some tuition assistance. Without the generous support of the benefactors listed below, Mercy's integrated academic/career and technical education program would not have been able to serve the students who most benefit.

#### **FUND FOR MERCY FAMILIES**

Anonymous Bridge Educational Foundation Sister Kathleen Boyce, RSM Ms. Doris Courtnye Calderwood '85

Ms. Doris Courtnye Calderwood 85

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph D. Carchidi

Ms. Carol A. Chiodo & Mr. Michael Cavanaugh

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Ms. Frances Skiendzielewski

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Sister Susan Walsh, RSM

Mr. Michael W. Weber



# Case Study

"Isabella" is a resilient young lady! She entered Mercy Career & Technical High School in the fall of 2014 in our McAuley Learning Support Program to improve her academics, but quickly moved up and out of the support program with the assistance of her McAuley teachers.

Isabella is the oldest of seven children and has had to adjust to familial transitions. With her parents' separation and frequent housing moves, Isabella was needed to assist with responsibilities at home. She is definitely a survivor and has compensated by doing well in school.

From the start, Isabella has been involved at Mercy: she has played on Mercy CTE's basketball and softball teams, and every year, she has exceeded the number of community service hours required! On afternoons when Isabella is not with her team or committing her time to service, she has gone back to her grade school to meet with her graduate support director, complete assignments and stay connected.

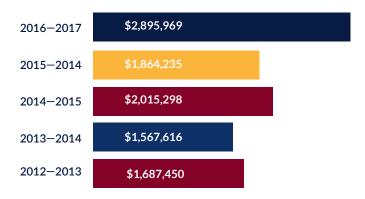
Isabella is focused on her career goals: as a sophomore, she entered Mercy CTE's elite Business Program and is presently out on Co-Op. After graduation, she hopes to attend Holy Family University and pursue a career in nursing.

Because of the generosity of our benefactors, whose contributions provide 92% of our student body with tuition assistance, students like Isabella are able to learn in an environment that provides the resources and staff to support each student's opportunity to succeed. In the face of hardship and adversity, Isabella's perseverance has shaped her into the kind of person Mercy graduates: a highly competent, compassionate, contributing member of the global community. We are confident Isabella will continue to live out Mercy values wherever her journey takes her next!

# Gifts & Annual Giving

JULY 1, 2016 - JUNE 30, 2017	\$2,895,969
The Annual Fund for Mercy Career & Technical High School	\$ 375,751
Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC)	\$ 388,034
Fall Fundraiser	\$ 236,962
Fund for Mercy Families	\$ 79,078
Gifts in Kind	\$ 8,621
Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC)	\$ 363,598
Pennsylvania Convention Center	\$ 278,667
Restricted Grants and Gifts	\$1,165,258

#### ANNUAL GIVING BY YEAR

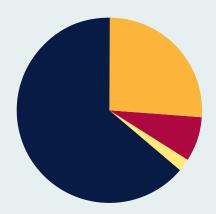


While every effort is made to keep accurate records, please realize that mistakes may occur. If you feel your name should be listed in this Annual Report and it is not or if your name is misspelled, please accept our sincere apologies and contact us as soon as possible so that we may correct your name for the future.

Please remember that this Annual Report covers donations made during the 2016–2017 Fiscal Year: July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017. If you have made a gift to Mercy CTE and we received it after the end of the fiscal year (June 30, 2017), we will recognize you in the 2017–2018 Annual Report.

Thank you for your gift to Mercy CTE. If you have any questions, please contact Peter D'Orazio, Director of Advancement, at (215) 965-4201 or pdorazio@mercycte.org

#### WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM



64% Community Benefactors

26% Net Tuition\*

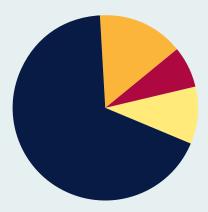
8% Investment Transfer

2% Other Revenue†

\*Net Tuition and Fees reflects the tuition funds collected by Mercy CTE after scholarship and financial aid

†Other revenue includes Sisters of Mercy endowment

#### WHERE THE MONEY GOES



68% Salaries and Benefits

15% Plant Operations & Maint.

10% Administration

7% Program Expenses

## MEMORIALS, TRIBUTES & GIFTS IN KIND

#### **MEMORIALS**

Memorial donations offer a particularly meaningful way to honor family members and friends. These contributions not only provide critical financial support to the programs at Mercy Career & Technical High School, but also serve as a lasting remembrance of loved ones.

#### In Loving Memory of Michael Chiodo

Mr. Christopher Cavanaugh Ms. Shea Cavanaugh Ms. Stephanie Cavanaugh

#### In Loving Memory of Tim Fox

Mr. Dennis A. Konopka

#### In Loving Memory of Peggy Hillman

**Anonymous** Mr. John Hillman

Faculty, Staff and Students of Mercy CTE

#### In Loving Memory of Msgr. Thomas J. Herron The Herron Family

#### In Loving Memory of Curt MacAfee

Ms. Jane MacAfee

#### In Loving Memory of Sister Raymond Mary

Ms. Colleen M. Lange

#### In Loving Memory of Irene Masucci

Mrs. Mary Duffy & Mr. William Gioioso

#### In Loving Memory of Maria McHugh

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Mr. & Mrs. Wade E. Brosius

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#### In Loving Memory of Michael Regan

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#### In Loving Memory of Francis X. Walsh

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Ms. Michele Polo

Mercy Career & Technical High School

Faculty & Staff

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Mr. Michael F. Rogers

#### **GIFTS IN KIND**

A gift-in-kind is a donation of goods or services or a contribution in any form other than cash or check. During fiscal year 2017, Mercy was the grateful beneficiary of gifts-in-kind from the following individuals and businesses:

Ms. Joanie Alston

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Mrs. Jennifer Dresser

Mrs. Jennifer Dudley

Ms. Paula B. Jaffe

Mrs. Linda Leighbody

Mr. Kevin McCarty

Mr. Joseph McFadden

Ms. Mollie Persico '09

Mrs. Jennifer Princivalle

Ms. Kathleen Princivalle

Mr. and Mrs. John Sasso

Ms. Sheila Stevens

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#### **TRIBUTES**

Consider celebrating a holiday or an important occasion such as a birthday, anniversary, graduation, or marriage with a gift to Mercy Career & Technical High School in the name of a loved one. The lives of alumni, parents, students, present/former faculty, and other members of the Mercy CTE family may be honored through tribute gifts.

In honor of Tyrina Blomer, Amy Knapp, Cheryl Monkman, Carol Pandza, Rich Scanlon, Kelly Wachtman, and Gloria Yu

Mr. & Mrs. Mark T. Bullock

#### In honor of Sister Rosemary Herron, RSM

Honorable & Mrs. James J. Fitzgerald

#### In honor of Laura Kahn's wedding

Mr. & Mrs. Charles Kahn, Jr.

In honor of Drs. Frank and Kathy Kucer Kate A. Murray, MD & Brian T. Kucer, MD

#### In honor of Linda Leighbody

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Przybylski

In honor of Sister Barbara Hoffman.

Sister Roberta Robertini, Sister Toni Zimmerman. Sister Mary Kay Eichman, Sister Peggy Kirby

Sister Christine McCann, RSM

#### In honor of Charles E. McKee, Esq.:

Rev. Edward J. Hallinan

#### In honor of Sister Maureen Murray, RSM

Sister Anne Woodeshick, RSM

#### In honor of RSM Jubilarians

Sister Marie Noel Bannon, RSM

Sister Patricia Carroll, RSM

Sister Rosemary Herron, RSM

Sister Barbara Hoffman, RSM

Sister Virginia Kauffman, RSM

Sister Antionette Medori, RSM Sister Elizabeth Powell, RSM

Sister Stella O'Brien, RSM

Sisters of Mercy of the Mid-Atlantic Community

Sister Marianna Walsh, RSM

#### Sister Susan Walsh, RSM In honor of Gerry Watson

Mr. John A. Loftus, Jr.

## In honor of Sister Margaret Taylor, RSM Birthday

Sisters of Mercy of the Mid-Atlantic Community

Sister Patricia Vetrano, RSM Sister Susan Walsh, RSM

### In honor of Joseph A. Zadlo

Mr. Bryce Turner

#### In honor of the Class of 2017

Mr. Joseph Carchidi

Mrs. Judy Connelly

Mrs. Angela Devos

Mrs. Sally Heisler

Mr. John Hillman Sister Barbara Hoffman, RSM

Mrs. Linda Leighbody

Ms. Kathleen Logan

Ms. Amanda Muir

Ms. Kathleen Princivalle Mr. Daniel Satterfield

Mrs. Sharon Schepise Ms. Fran Skiendzielewski

### In honor of each year worked at Mercy CTE

Sister Susan Walsh, RSM

# EITC and OTSC Programs

# HUGE IMPACT FOR MERCY CAREER & TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

Did you know that a portion of the business tax you pay in Pennsylvania could be redirected to provide scholarships to disadvantaged students at Mercy Career & Technical High School?

Consider this — you can pay state taxes without a voice about how those dollars are spent, or you can redirect your tax dollars to benefit disadvantaged students attending Mercy Career & Technical High School (Mercy CTE), who will enter the workforce of this region with the skills and discipline to be conscientious, reliable employees for you and other local businesses.

Through the Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) and the Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC) programs, significant tax incentives are provided to eligible businesses that allocate a portion of their business taxes to scholarship organizations. You must be approved by the state of Pennsylvania and make your contribution to an approved scholarship organization. Mercy Career & Technical High School is such a scholarship organization.

Over 90% of Mercy's 320 students come from families who qualify, according to the Federal Reduced Lunch Low-Income Guidelines, and receive financial aid towards their tuition. The Sisters of Mercy and benefactors subsidize over 50% of each student's education. Despite this significant help, each year dozens of students risk not returning to Mercy CTE because their families cannot afford even their subsidized tuition.

Your scholarship support through the EITC and OSTC Programs can change the lives of our students in a very significant and meaningful way. The majority of Mercy CTE students qualify to receive tuition assistance from both of these programs, and your business can take advantage of both programs!

#### While both EITC and OSTC are equally vital to Mercy CTE, they are separate programs:

#### EITC monies are available to:

- Eligible businesses contributing to a Scholarship Organization
- Educational Improvement Organizations
- Pre-Kindergarten Scholarship Organizations

#### OSTC monies are available to:

• Eligible students residing within the boundaries of a low-achieving school to attend another public school outside of their district or a nonpublic school

To be eligible for EITC and OSTC, your business must be authorized to do business in Pennsylvania and must be subject to one or more of the following taxes:

- Bank Shares Tax
- Capital Stock/Foreign Franchise Tax
- Corporate Net Income Tax
- Insurance Premium Tax (excluding surplus lines, unauthorized, domestic/foreign marine)
- Malt Beverage Tax
- Mutual Thrift Tax
- Personal Income Tax
- Retaliatory Fees under section 212 of the Insurance Company Law of 1921
- Title Insurance & Trust Company Shares Tax

#### **EITC DONORS: SCHOOL YEAR 2017-2018**

68 families benefitted

**Anonymous** 

BAYADA Home Health Care

**BLOCS** (Business Leadership Organized

for Catholic Schools)

**Customers Bank** 

Delco Properties Holdings, LLLP

Nick & Eileen DeBenedictis

Driscoll Construction Co., Inc.

ECBM, LP

Elliott-Lewis

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PNC Financial Services Group

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Wilkie Lexus

#### **OSTC DONORS: SCHOOL YEAR 2017-2018**

99 families benefitted

CNI Sales, Inc.

Cooper Acquisitions

Customers Bank

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Mercy CTE encourages businesses to consult a tax advisor in order to maximize the benefits of the EITC Program.

For more information, contact Peter D'Orazio, Director of Advancement, at 215.965.4201 or pdorazio@mercycte.org

# Service Trip

## **OPERATION KATRINA-MATTHEW (OKM)**











For 12 years, Mercy Career & Technical High School has been sending students and faculty on the Operation Katrina Service trip to aid the victims of recent hurricane disasters.

Last spring, in the wake of Hurricane Matthew, Lumberton, NC was engulfed in water and wreckage.

When Ms. Catherine Glatts, VP of Career & Technical Education and coordinator of Operation Katrina, saw the photos and news coverage, she knew immediately where this year's team would head: "Lumberton, NC met the Operation Katrina criteria: devastated by a natural disaster, drivable in one day, and many disadvantaged people were affected. Lumberton, NC is located in one of the poorest counties in America. This site visit confirmed to me that this was the place where the Mercy students and their skills would make a big difference."

We sent 17 students, 4 of whom went on the trip last year, 3 alumni and 2 faculty members who volunteered a week of their time to help those in need.

"I chose to join the OKM team for a second time because of last year's amazing experience. It allows me to step out of my comfort zone, meet new people and, most importantly, help others who are in need." — Jennifer Sinchi '17

Lumberton is the poorest county in North Carolina, and it has the highest crime rate per capita. With this in mind, our students were shocked by the overwhelming "Southern hospitality" they received wherever they went. Students commented on how it was an inspiring attitude that also made them appreciate all they have.

"It was great for our students to be in that community and see the love and joy spread around from those who have lost nearly everything."— MT Lopata (Mercy CTE Social Worker and OKM Chaperone)

While in Lumberton, the OKM team worked on 5 different house sites. At these sites our volunteers worked on everything from building drywall and putting down sub floors, painting walls, and demolishing a destroyed home to helping a neighbor remove leftover lumber and debris from his yard.

The homeowners and church members were super impressed with the Mercy CTE skills. They greatly appreciated the attention to detail and hard work our students and volunteers put in at each job, and they were invited to come back next year, which Mercy Ministry is already planning for this Easter break.

# 2017 Student & Faculty Trip

#### **HIDDEN FIGURES**

"Several teachers in the STEM Department had the idea to take students studying math and science to see the movie to celebrate Women's History Month and Black History Month. It was our hope to inspire them and to show them how what they are learning in the classroom has been used to accomplish pretty amazing things like calculating flight trajectories of space craft. Faculty members conducted follow-up sessions with students, where they had the opportunity to share their impressions from the experience. It was clear that they learned about important social issues as well as the usefulness of math and science."

- Ms. Melanie Stafford, Math Instructor

In February, the entire Mercy Career & Technical High School student body and faculty had the chance to fill an entire theater for a viewing of *Hidden Figures*.

Hidden Figures (based on the novel of the same name by Margot Lee Shetterly) is a true tale of empowerment. The story unveils a history many people are unfamiliar with, and recounts how the efforts of four African-American female mathematicians were key in the successes of the United States throughout the Space Race.

Organized by our STEM teachers, Ms. Melanie Stafford, Ms. Elizabeth Dowling, Ms. Amanda Muir and Ms. Kathleen Logan, our students, faculty and staff were able to experience the movie all together.

"This movie event combined life lessons which are valuable to our whole school community. Besides the history of the time, the turbulence of race relations, the application of the science of space explorations and mathematical genius at work, the lessons pointed out to all of us the power of the human spirit. This type of power is accomplished through the perseverance of the women, the appreciation of their skills and the overcoming of many obstacles. What lessons indeed! I am so grateful that adults and students here at Mercy CTE could experience this together. Thank you to our donors who made this event a possibility." — Sister Susan, Principal

Thanks to many of our Vice Principal of CTE, Ms. Catherine Glatts', old Lockheed Martin colleagues who donated much of the monies needed to pull this day off. All together, we raised over \$5,000 to make this day possible!



#### **HIDDEN FIGURES DONORS**

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# The Catherine McAuley Society:

# Remembering the Heritage of Mercy Career & Technical High School

The Catherine McAuley Society, named after the foundress of the Sisters of Mercy, recognizes those individuals who have chosen to remember Mercy Career & Technical High School in their will, named Mercy CTE as a beneficiary of their retirement plans or life insurance policies, or remembered the school through other types of deferred gifts.

#### FOUNDING MEMBERS:

Chairs: Barbara R. Kahn and Charles Kahn, Jr.
James F. Barr
Judith F. Bishop-Duffy and James Duffy
Thomas J. Seghetti, Jr.
Anna May and Joseph G. Tropiano

Our donors recognize that every gift to Mercy CTE has a direct impact on today's students and faculty. Every contribution helps us to ensure the economic stability of our school.

If you have remembered Mercy Career & Technical High School in your will or have planned to make a gift in the future through other estate planning vehicles, we would be delighted to welcome you as a member of the Catherine McAuley Society. Please speak with your financial and legal advisors about these gift possibilities and how they might create tax advantages for your estate.

The cost of keeping our mission alive and vibrant increases yearly. Your gift to the Catherine McAuley Society will ensure that the legacy of Mercy Career & Technical High School—its students, faculty, alumni, and people they impact—lives on for years to come. By remembering us in your will or other estate planning vehicles, you can have an enormous impact on the ability of Mercy CTE to prosper and thrive for decades.

Please contact Sister Rosemary Herron, President of Mercy Career & Technical High School, at 215-226-1225  $\times$  111, if you would like to discuss the McAuley Society in more detail. All inquiries will be kept confidential.

# Board of Trustees & Advancement Committee of MERCY CAREER & TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

Working tirelessly to cultivate and introduce new faces to Mercy CTE, the Board of Trustees and Advancement Committee members steward our long-term donor relationships and promote, at every opportunity, our strong integrated curriculum in the business community. We simply could not continue the successful mission of our unique school without the faithful on-going commitment of these powerfully motivated volunteers to the fiscal health of Mercy Career & Technical High School.

These dedicated men and women are our most enthusiastic advocates for Mercy CTE who, by example, motivate their business associates and friends to invest in Mercy. Board and Advancement members begin the process of connecting their friends to Mercy by encouraging visits to the school. During visits guests have the opportunity to talk with students who are trained for "real-world jobs" in building trades, business, cosmetology, culinary arts, computer technology, and nursing. For more information about a "Morning at Mercy" visit, contact Peter D'Orazio, Director of Advancement via email at pdorazio@mercycte.org or call him directly at 215.965.4201.

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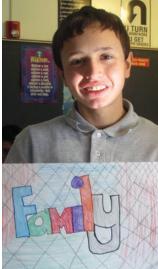
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If your student is no longer living at home, please contact Kara Dwyer at 215.226.1225 ext. 137 or email at kdwyer@mercycte.org with a current address. Thank you!

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Forging Futures with Faith and Focus

**FALL FUNDRAISER** 

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4TH 2018
MERCY CAREER & TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

Details to follow Spring 2018

CONNECT WITH MERCY CAREER & TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL TO SEE OUR STUDENTS IN ACTION!







