

“As pilgrims we pray for the wisdom to know the needs of our sisters and brothers and we dare to risk a caring response.” From the Charism Statement of the Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati



Dare to Risk A Caring Response

Stories from the Bruin Community
Embodying Commitment,
Compassion and Connection



IMPACT
REPORT 2024-2025



**Dear Friends of
DePaul Cristo Rey
High School,**



The 2024-2025 school year was another year of extraordinary growth and promise for our DePaul Cristo Rey Bruins. Guided by our theme of “*Dare to Risk a Caring Response*,” our community embraced new opportunities to transform lives and spark the flames of potential. Our faith continued to meet the future, and your generosity continued to open doors for students who are boldly and courageously rewriting the narrative of possibility.

Highlighted in this impact report are *numbers that tell a story* that is not only inspiring, but transformative. Embedded in our continued success is a depth of commitment, compassion and connection unique to our Bruin family. The beautiful *faces behind our success* – young women and men of integrity, faith, tenacity, and purpose – continue to victoriously shine brighter each day.

Today, we celebrate these victories because we *have done this together*. Collectively, you’ve helped us generate change, foster vitality, strengthen belonging, and provide opportunities that will ripple through families and communities for generations. Each gift you have shared is not just an investment in our students’ education – it is an act of faith in the future of our city. And it is the caring response Elizabeth Ann Seton dared to live many years ago as a Sister of Charity.

With your continued partnership, DePaul Cristo Rey will continue building a community where every student has the chance to learn and live a life of promise.

May every Bruin continue to live bold, caring, and life-changing responses. May each of us continue to live to give.

Sincerely,

Siobhan A. Taylor
President & CEO

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Finding Family at DePaul Cristo Rey: The Smiths' Story of Risk and Belonging

Although the Smith family now considers the DePaul Cristo Rey community part of their own family, Mom **Charmaine** recalls that there was risk involved in the decision to enroll their daughters. What began with uncertainty has since been replaced by deep pride and gratitude for their daughters' successes.

When oldest daughter, **Mayahti '25**, was in eighth grade, Charmaine says, “Mayahti initially wanted to go to the same high school as her elementary school friends. We wanted her to have a more diverse co-ed experience, but I was nervous to try something different. The moment we first stepped foot on DPCR's campus, it felt different from other schools. The staff was, and still is, so welcoming. It gave me confidence that DPCR would provide everything our daughters needed.”

Mayahti excelled academically and in her Corporate Work Study (CWS) placements, and earned a full-tuition Flyer Promise Scholarship to the **University of Dayton** where she is now a freshman business major. **Maliyah'28** is a DPCR sophomore on her own path to high school and post-graduation success. Charmaine says Maliyah's CWS position with the **City of Cincinnati Law Department**, “is a blessing and perfect placement,” since Maliyah is interested in a career in law enforcement or criminal justice. “I am so happy my girls are doing so well; I've seen their confidence boosted so much. I'm grateful for both of their experiences and can't wait for my son to thrive as a Bruin in a few years.”

The Smith Family (also appearing on the cover) includes (left to right) Mayahti '25, Mom Charmaine, and Maliyah '28.



The Quiet Power of Teachers Who Care

The quiet power of teachers who truly care helps to drive student success at DePaul Cristo Rey. “Dare to Risk a Caring Response” may have been last year’s school theme, but it’s been a long-standing commitment of DPCR teachers, including Math Teacher **Kevin Walker** (pictured at right with Gabriel ‘27.)

“Mr. Walker does more than just teach geometry,” says **Gabriel ‘27**. “He encourages us, tells us not to be afraid of math, and if we ever need help outside of his class, we can go to him.”

Kevin first starting teaching at DPCR in 2019, left in 2022, and returned to the Math Department last school year. “I love to be here among professionals who care about the students; this is a real community,” he says. That sense of care drives something deeper: the focused, schoolwide mission to ensure students are ready for college. “In math, we focus on trying to break them out of a frame of mind that they’re not a math person. We’re getting them to buy-in to math and see its greater implications in their lives.”

Kevin incorporates note-taking lessons into his curriculum and teaches his students to build their own math textbooks. “I want them to own the subject and to create a resource they’ll use now and then transfer that skill to college.” It’s a skill Gabriel continues to appreciate. “I now apply the note-taking skills he taught in geometry to some of my other classes,” says Gabriel.

“I’m very proud of Gabe. This year when he started Algebra II, he came and asked if I thought he could move into the honors-level class,” says Kevin. Gabriel explains that, “I decided to challenge myself and take the honors class; I’ve learned the easiest way to do something is not always the best way.”

DPCR’s math teachers have adopted the Silicon Valley Math Initiative (SVMI) teaching framework endorsed by the **Cristo Rey Network®** and math scores have been on the rise since. Using SVMI assessments, DPCR now ranks among the top schools in the Network in math growth, with a significant year-to-year increase in the number of students scoring at three or above on a five-point scale.



The college-readiness of DPCR seniors has been increasing as measured by the Cristo Rey Network, and grew

105%

between the Classes of 2024 and 2025.



The average growth of DPCR seniors’ scores on the SAT series of tests rose

109%

between the Classes of 2024 and 25.



2/3rds

of sophomores, juniors and seniors were enrolled in an Honors or AP class during the 2024-25 school year.



Key to students’ academic progress has been strong faculty retention which remained high at

91%

during the 2024-25 school year.



Caring Response Brings Rewarding Relationship

While “Dare to Risk a Caring Response” was last year’s schoolwide theme, it also applies to the whole history and success of the Corporate Work Study Program (CWSP). The relationship between **Angie Garner** and **Griselda ‘26** (pictured below) speaks to the commitment of CWS partners, supervisors and students, and the meaningful connections that result.

Angie is the director of operations at **Custom Design Benefits**, an employee benefits firm that became a CWSP partner in fall 2023. It was then-sophomore Griselda’s first work-study position. “I didn’t know what to expect and I was intimidated by the idea that I’m a young, Hispanic person and no one looked like me,” says Griselda. She quickly found a supportive environment of kind co-workers and a supervisor, Angie, who loves mentoring.

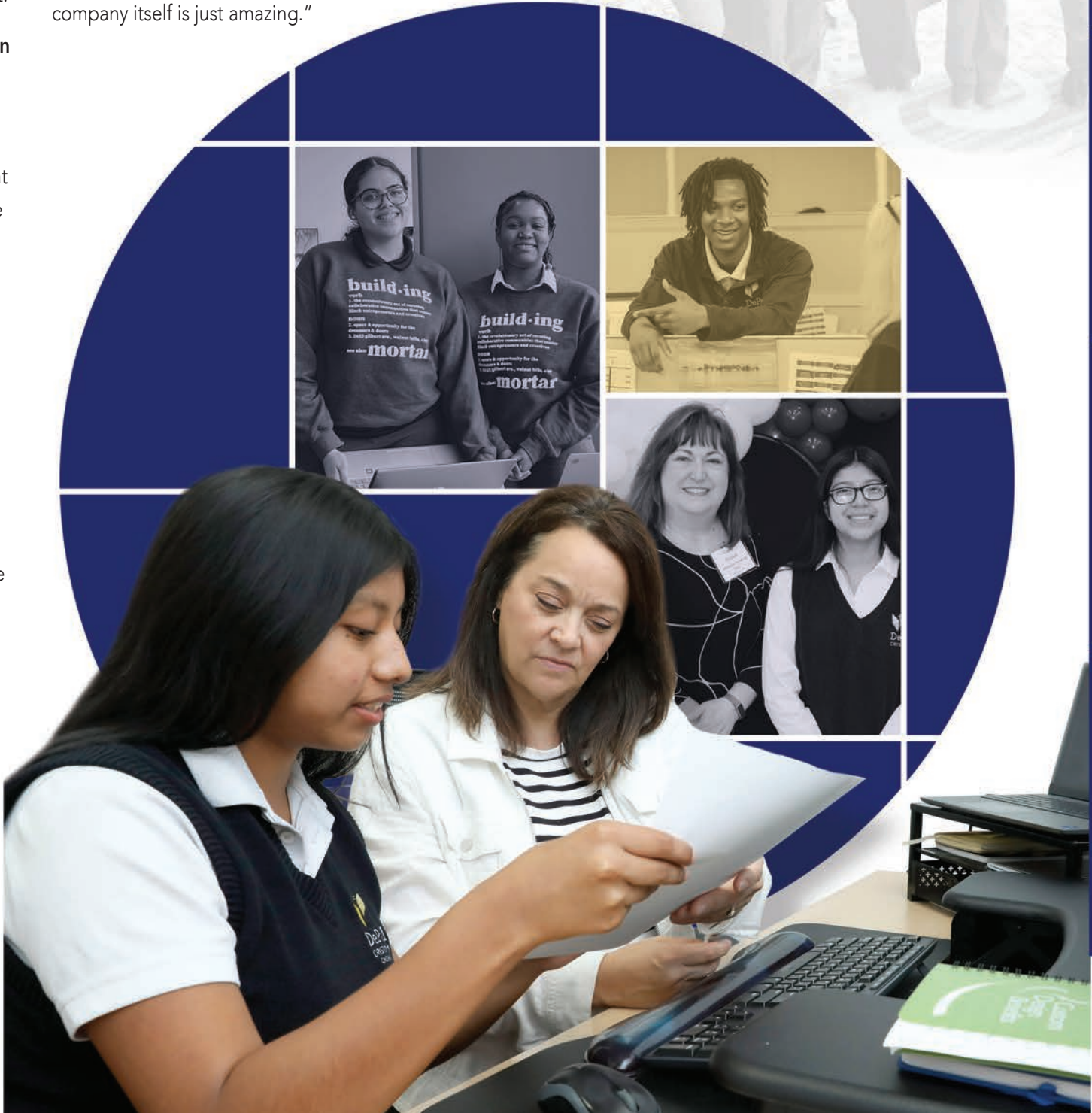
“I guess it’s a risk to put yourself out there and try to build a relationship with someone in this program,” says Angie, “but why wouldn’t you? This experience has been so rewarding. Griselda has grown from a quiet, shy student to this young lady who’s coming into her own.”

Griselda has also grown into a valued member of the staff and Custom Design Benefits has hired her the past two summers to continue working while school and CWS are on break. “We are a smaller company and everyone has full plates,” explains Angie. “Griselda has been instrumental in completing important projects for us that no one else has time to do, including huge mailings, digital scanning, and completing important updates to our claims processing system.”

“Angie always tries to give me new things to learn and to make me feel included,” says Griselda. She also greatly values Angie’s support beyond work.

“I want to be able to help her with her future,” says Angie. “My goal is for us to continue our relationship when she leaves, so she knows she can come to me for help with anything when she goes to college.”

Griselda knows Angie’s caring response is sincere. “I think she’s the best supervisor ever and the company itself is just amazing.”



100%

of students completed and presented Corporate Work Study capstone projects at the end of the 2024-25 school year focused on their CWS experience and growth.



95%

of Corporate Work Study Partners reported satisfaction with the program, as measured in an end-of-the-year survey.



96%

of student associates reported satisfaction with the program, as measured in an end-of-the-year survey.



96%

of student associates achieved a rating of 3 or higher (3 = meets expectations) for their job performance as rated by their supervisors.



Students Put Faith into Action Through Bible Study and Jesus Club

DePaul Cristo Rey students who meet for Bible study and Jesus Club come together from different grades and backgrounds to explore their relationship with Christ, reflect on Scripture, pray, and build community. Together the two groups create complementary opportunities rooted in fellowship and faith.

Offering and encouraging student participation in these faith-based groups is a reflection of DPCR’s Bruin at Grad profile – a holistic framework that prepares students for life beyond graduation through the tenets: Believe, Achieve, Become. The “Believe” tenet calls students to see God’s purpose in their life and to serve others with compassion and care.

This commitment to put faith into practice is reflected in the students who have taken on leadership roles including **Jirila ‘26** and **Ta’Kaia ‘26** who help lead both groups. “It’s helped me grow in my own faith and inspired me to do

better,” Jirila says. Ta’Kaia agrees, adding that stepping into leadership has helped her strengthen her relationships and connections to her peers.

Bible study, led by Religion Teacher **Tyler Marsh**, met weekly last school year during lunch and focused on reading and reflecting on Scripture. Students of all faith backgrounds joined the discussions. “Everyone gets the chance to share their perspective,” Ta’Kaia explains. “We grow together through fellowship and community.”

Jesus Club is primarily student-led, emphasizing fellowship and encouraging students to focus on how to live out their faith in everyday life. “It’s about the individual relationships we are able to form with Christ,” Ta’Kaia says. Guided by seven student leaders, including Ta’Kaia and Jirila, the club’s monthly meetings included teaching, worship, prayer, food, and games.

Tyler has witnessed significant growth in the student leaders. “The students have grown a lot in leadership and humility. It’s been really cool to see them grow n their faith and into well-rounded leaders,” he says.

All DPCR students are required to attend a grade-level retreat each year. Many of the Bible study and Jesus Club members also voluntarily participated in the Damascus Abundant Life Retreat in Columbus last January and may return when another group goes this winter. Meanwhile Bible study and Jesus Club continue to flourish, meeting regularly this school year.

Jirila ‘26, Diana ‘27, Tyler Marsh and Ta’Kaia ‘26



25

students attended the voluntary Damascus Abundant Life Retreat in Columbus in January 2025.



Consistently meeting weekly, the

Bible Study

group read and discussed all four Gospels and the book of Revelation during the course of last school year.



The traditional senior retreat

took on a new energy and format as it transitioned to a student-led experience in February 2025.



Bruins “dared to risk a caring response” through service projects

ranging from freshmen cleaning up the Mill Creek to a Student Council and National Honor Society-led Christmas toy and toiletry drive.



"We Live to Give." Grads Inspire the Next Generation of Givers

"We live to give, it's one of our household pillars," explain **Joseph and Zamaria (Beasley) Whittle**, 2017 DePaul Cristo Rey graduates (pictured at right). The couple met while DPCR students and continued dating through college while Zamaria attended Cincinnati's **Xavier University** and Joseph was at **Loyola University** in Chicago. Though their post-college careers took them to Phoenix, AZ, they returned to Cincinnati to get married at DPCR in November 2023.

In Phoenix, Zamaria is a staff accountant for **AECOM Hunt**, and Joseph is a REALTOR® with **A.Z. & Associates**. They're very involved in their church community, and their strong faith is among the reasons they share their gifts with DPCR. "If we could donate our time to DPCR, we would, but our financial gifts let us show our support from where we are," explains Joseph. "That's how we keep the mission alive. We do our part to make sure those coming behind us are being uplifted as we were."

"We think DPCR has a great mission, great values, and great people in place pouring into the students," says Zamaria. "We're happy, grateful, and honored that we can support it."

For them, "Dare to Risk A Caring Response" relates to sacrifice and stewardship. "For Zamaria and me, there has to be a need worth responding to, so we know that what we're daring to respond to is being well run and stewarded. We recognize the need for support for DPCR students, and for us, that's a risk worth taking," Joseph reflects. "We hope the fact that we've been able to give to DPCR and share our story this year offers other alumni the invitation to take the risk and give a caring response by supporting our school."



91

college-enrolled DPCR graduates received microgrants from DPCR's Graduate Success Fund in 2024-25.



Those microgrants totaled almost

\$120,000

to support eliminating financial barriers to their college completion.



Daniel Gilliland '19 and **Michael Williams '18** (pictured at left) were recognized on the Cristo Rey Network's

40under40

list for achieving academic and professional excellence while demonstrating community involvement.

5

college-enrolled alumni participated in study abroad programs during the 2024-25 academic year in countries ranging from Costa Rica to South Africa.



Mission Funding 2024-2025

DePaul Cristo Rey is pleased to acknowledge and thank those listed in this impact report who have made gifts to the Annual Fund, Rey of Light, Golf Classic, Graduate Success Program, and Pickleball in addition to gifts made as a tribute to a loved one or friend. We are forever grateful to the generous friends who have supported DePaul Cristo Rey's mission, students and alumni. This report shares the impact you've made possible – transforming challenges into achievements and dreams into reality.

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Gifts that sustain DePaul Cristo Rey for future generations are critical to the long-term stability of the school. **The Circle of Hope Society** recognizes those who have included DPCR in their estate plans. These types of gifts can include bequests, life income gifts (charitable trusts), trust provisions, real estate, life insurance policies, retirement plans, and stocks. We express our deep appreciation to the following members of the Circle of Hope Society:

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For information about becoming a Circle of Hope member, contact **Sparkle Worley** at 513.861.0600, ext. 320.

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We are so grateful to all our generous supporters. 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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Report of Operations Revenue and Expenses

OPERATING REVENUE

Development	\$3,857,174
EdChoice	\$2,495,625
CWSP	\$1,418,801
Government Programs	\$516,569
Other	\$113,606
Tuition & Fees	\$96,028
TOTAL	\$8,497,803

OPERATING EXPENSES

Personnel	\$5,137,670
Facilities	\$1,314,304
Student Support	\$944,578
Transportation	\$652,515
Communications	\$204,094
Professional Services	\$178,536
Other	\$66,106
TOTAL	\$8,497,803

Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025

