

# Goddard Riverside

INVESTING IN PEOPLE, STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY

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\*Past Presidents

**Executive Director**  
Dr. Roderick L. Jones

## Goddard Riverside Community Center 2018 Agency Annual Report

2018 was the first full year for Goddard Riverside's new Executive Director, Roderick Jones. It also marked a year since Goddard Riverside's formal merger with Lincoln Square Neighborhood Center.

Goddard Riverside's programs continue to effectively address the critical social needs of low-income New Yorkers. Some highlights from July 2017 – June 2018 include:

### *Stopping the Cycle of Homelessness Through Outreach, Housing and Support*

Like any chronic issue, the treatment of homelessness requires unremitting patience and persistence; it sometimes takes years before an individual living on the streets agrees to try moving inside. This is the reality for Goddard Riverside's Manhattan Outreach Consortium teams, which conduct street outreach and housing placement for large portions of Manhattan, have an annual caseload of approximately 470 chronically street homeless individuals, place about 200 of these clients in housing, and last year achieved a 97% one-year retention rate for those placed directly from the street into housing.

Once living in one of Goddard Riverside's four supportive housing residences for formerly homeless individuals, people tend to stay. In fact, our housing placements are so stable that our longer-term residents are aging in place. We work with all 405 of our tenants to help mitigate the effects of their chronic homelessness, providing social services, substance use and mental health coordination, medical clinics, support groups, and communal meals.

To illustrate the extent of the needs in our combined outreach and supportive housing population, over 500 individuals are receiving mental health care; close to 200, treatment for substance abuse; and nearly 300, specialty medical care.

### *Improving College Completion Rates, Career Prospects and Overall Equity for Underserved Students*

The Options Center, which serves many students who are the first generation to attend college and face extraordinary challenges related to poverty, immigration status, racial and ethnic background, and/or family turmoil, helps an average of 85% of high school seniors and 60% of young adults/adults-out-of-school to enroll in college for the following year. Once in college, Options participants persist and graduate from college at a much higher rate than national and city averages. For example:

- 53% of Options students vs 23% of CUNY students starting a 2 year program received an Associates degree
- 25% of Options students vs 9% of CUNY students starting a 2 year program received a Bachelors degree;
- 73% of options students vs 50% of CUNY students starting a 4 year program received a Bachelors degree

### *Altering the Life Trajectory of Individuals Living with Mental Illness*

A place to go, a job to do, a community that helps you discover and be your best self – these central elements of a 'normal' adult life are particularly important for people with mental illness, who often feel alienated from society. Goddard Riverside assists mentally ill individuals to find connection and meaningful engagement in the following ways:

The TOP Opportunities supported employment program places an average of 75% of people living with persistent mental illness in entry-level jobs or internships within 3-9 months of entering the program. The program maintains a 65-70% employment rate among its participants (national rates of employment for mentally ill people are between 20 and 40%). More than half of TOPOP members have less than one year of cumulative work experience when they come to the program and less than half have earned a high

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school diploma. TOP Opportunities provides job opportunities to participants through its many partners, including NYC's Clean Streets Initiative, the Columbus Avenue Beautification Project, and the Greener NYC/NYCHA Beautification Project.

Goddard Riverside's ACT Team provides nontraditional and flexible psychiatric treatment and intensive case management to 82 adults with severe mental illness, helping them achieve stability, remain in their homes, reunite with their families and, when necessary, secure permanent housing. Our TOP Clubhouse, certified by Clubhouse International, is an evidenced-based model that provided services to 126 men and women with mental illness last year, using the structure of a work day. Members and staff work side by side planning and executing all tasks needed for the day to day operation of the club and collaborate on each participants' chosen goals related to education, employment, housing, and socialization.

## ***Seeking Justice for All***

New York City's growing inequality means ever-more-precarious living conditions for many low-income residents. Goddard Riverside works to ensure that the under resourced population we serve receives the information, services and representation needed to lead stable lives. For example:

The Law Project provided eviction prevention services to nearly 1,100 tenants last year through a combination of direct representation and advice and counsel and achieved a positive outcome in well over 90% of the cases represented in Housing Court. Law Project attorneys and organizers also conducted educational trainings and workshops for clients, community members and elected officials and their staff, reaching 2,500 individuals, and building a cadre of people who know their rights and can act to preserve affordable housing.

Goddard Riverside's Single Stop program screened almost 1,350 households to determine their eligibility for benefits, and obtained at least one benefit – food stamps, legal services, health care, rent reduction, or financial services – for some 650 households, helping them to remain in their rapidly gentrifying neighborhoods.

## ***Building Opportunity and Community in a New Neighborhood***

In July 2017, Goddard Riverside formally merged with Lincoln Square Neighborhood Center (LSNC), which serves individuals and families living in the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) buildings Amsterdam Houses and Addition. Highlights at LSNC included:

- A coalition comprising LSNC, our neighboring cooperative building, nearby high schools, NYCHA, and Community Board 7 worked together to bring about long-needed neighborhood improvements and beautification, including sidewalk repair and the installation of planters. The positive results of these collaborations have improved morale among our participants and strengthened our community.
- Strong partnerships enabled us to meet our youth development goals. Young people benefitted from creative writing with Writopia, literary support with Reading Buddies, and high school equivalency preparation with the NYC DOE Pathways to Graduation program
- Our RISE (Respect, Integrity, Safety, Empowerment) Youth Center, which operates 7 nights a week during the summer and 3 nights a week during the school year, won notice from NY1 as an exemplar of summer engagement for youth in NYCHA developments.

## ***Leveling the Playing Field for Upper West Side Youth and Older Adults***

The Upper West Side has a high concentration of children and seniors, and Goddard Riverside plays an important role in ensuring that those with the fewest resources have access to the kind of high quality programs and services available to more affluent individuals and families. These include:

- Structured, age-appropriate care for 200 children ages 2.5 to 5 in our four day care and Head Start Centers
- After school, summer, and weekend programs, including an academic tutoring center, a Performing Arts Camp, a Beacon Center and a Teen Center, that provide enrichment, tutoring, and support to 2,300 children and youth ages 5 to 24.
- 2 Senior Centers, 2 NORC Programs, senior housing, and the largest meals on wheels program on the West Side of Manhattan, which provide a wide range of educational and recreational activities, wellness programs, aging in place services, and case management to 3,800 people

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## 2018 Financials at a Glance

FY ending 6/30/18

<b>Revenue:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>27,383,697</b>
Government Grants	\$	17,047,181
Contributions	\$	3,793,037
Investment Income	\$	1,314,913
Program Fees	\$	1,415,735
Reimbursements	\$	1,111,715
Special Events	\$	657,483
In-Kind Services	\$	573,782
Housing Development Fees	\$	1,469,851
 <b>Expenses:</b>	 <b>\$</b>	 <b>26,410,373</b>
Programs: Youth	\$	4,202,312
Programs: Older Adults	\$	3,401,365
Programs: Homelessness, Mental Health and Job Training	\$	5,245,123
Programs: Housing	\$	4,372,006
Programs: Strengthening Community	\$	1,621,061
Programs: Early Childhood	\$	3,494,791
Support: Management & General	\$	3,301,316
Support: Fundraising	\$	777,399

Total Assets: \$36,119,377

Total Liabilities: \$10,135,940

Ending Net Assets: \$25,983,437

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# Goddard Riverside Board of Directors

## President

Christopher S. Auguste

## Secretary

Kayalyn A. Marafioti

## Executive Director

Roderick L. Jones, Ed. D

## First Vice President

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## Treasurer

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Helen Yoon

Jane Zenker

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Eileen D'Agostino

Anne Powell

\*past presidents





Dear Friends,

For well over a century, Goddard Riverside has invested in people and strengthened community. Our goal is for every person in our community to reach their fullest potential.

We know transformational change takes a collective effort. We are proud of our work in leading the formation of the Manhattan Outreach Consortium, three service providers working together to prevent homelessness. The Options Center is another example of our city-wide collaboration as we work with agencies and professionals in all five boroughs to support young people of every economic class and ethnicity to attend and complete college.

We hold dear the belief that everyone deserves an opportunity. Further, we know that New York City is great because of the strength of the people that call New York home. It follows that the greatness of our city depends on the strength we all contribute. When we help people to be their best, everyone wins. Our economy is stronger and our streets are safer when everyone contributes. Goddard Riverside sees New York as a city with unlimited potential — in the young people, the women, and the men who call this city home. Our work, through our programs and our collaborations, is to offer support, open doors and break down barriers, all in the service of transformational growth for everyone.

The continuation of our work depends on dedicated supporters like you. We are optimistic about Goddard's future because we know we have your support. Creating positive change for the people we serve is only possible because we share the same values.

We are proud of what Goddard has accomplished and excited about what we will do together in the future. We look forward to working with the Goddard community to maintain and improve upon Goddard's service to our neighbors.

Regards,

Roderick L. Jones, Ed. D  
Executive Director

Christopher Auguste  
Board President

# Timeline

**1853**

The Wilson Industrial School for Girls, Goddard Riverside's earliest ancestor, opens in the East Village, providing child care, a residence for homeless girls, and various neighborhood clubs.



**1887**

The Riverside Day Nursery, another forerunner, opens on West 63rd Street. Originally providing child care, it grows to include social clubs, a Fresh Air Camp and health services.

**1892**

The Unitarian Church launches the Friendly Aid Society, a settlement with a kindergarten, health clinic and recreation programs operating on East 34th Street.

**1898**

Friendly Aid hires Mary Simkhovitch, who will go on to found Greenwich house and become a noted settlement movement leader.

**1908**

The Wilson Industrial School moves to West 69th Street.



**Early 1930s**

The Friendly Aid Society is renamed Goddard Neighborhood Center in honor of its first board president.

**1939**

Riverside Day Nursery re-incorporates as Riverside Community House to reflect its expanded mission.

**1954**

Riverside Community House merges with the Wilson Industrial School for Girls.

**1958**

Under Robert Moses, the West Side Urban Renewal Project launches. It involves the rehab or demolition of hundreds of apartment buildings and construction of public housing projects.



**1959**

Riverside Community House and Goddard Neighborhood Center merge to form Goddard-Riverside Community Center. The new organization will focus on mitigating the impacts of urban renewal.

**1972**

Bernie Wohl becomes executive director of Goddard Riverside Community Center.

**1979**

In response to a homelessness crisis on the Upper West Side, Goddard Riverside launches Project Reachout, one of the first street outreach programs in the country.

**1983**

Phelps House, a 168-unit apartment tower for low-income aging adults, opens. The building also houses Goddard administrative staff and the Senior Center.



**1985**

Goddard Riverside merges with the Child Study Association of America/Wel-Met, Inc., acquiring new campgrounds and expanding on a summer camp program that already included grounds in Rifton, NY.

**1988**

Stephan Russo co-launches a group that will become the Supportive Housing Network of New York, a major advocacy organization for supportive housing in the state.

**1998**

Bernie Wohl retires; Stephan Russo becomes executive director.

**2007**

The Manhattan Outreach Consortium, formed and led by Goddard Riverside, signs a contract with the city to provide services throughout Manhattan.

**2010**

Goddard Riverside leads a successful campaign to restore city funding slashed for home-delivered meals.



**2011**

Goddard Riverside merges with St. Matthews and St. Timothy Neighborhood Center, preserving Early Learning, Summer Day Camp, the Star Learning Center, and Home Delivered Meals.

**2011**

Goddard Riverside's youth center at 647 Columbus Avenue reopens as the Bernie Wohl Center, serving as an arts, theatre and recreation space for youth programs as well as a venue for performances and events.



**2016**

Staff, tenants, and local leaders celebrate the newly-renovated Capitol Hall supportive housing residence, which boasts private bathrooms and kitchenettes as well as added community space.

**2017**

Stephan Russo steps down; Dr. Roderick L. Jones becomes executive director. Goddard Riverside and Lincoln Square Neighborhood Center complete merger.

# About Us

**Goddard Riverside operates 27 programs at 22 sites in Manhattan, serving a diverse population of thousands of individuals and families. To do this work, we secure government and foundation grants, earn fees for services and receive contributions from corporations and individuals.**

## **Preparing Children and Youth for Success**

Studies show that early investments in children pays off many times over by helping them achieve their full potential. We provide a continuum of programs from Early Childhood Education through college and beyond to support young people as they become self-reliant, contributing members of society.

## **Enriching the Lives of Older Adults**

We believe in “aging in community” — that is, supporting older adults to live secure, healthy, and socially rich lives. We provide affordable housing for older adults as well as home-delivered meals for people with mobility challenges. Our Senior Centers and NORCs (Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities) offer daily socialization, exercise, and nutrition programs.

## **Promoting Wellness and Recovery**

Our mental health programs support people to live in the community and stay connected to family and friends. These services form a continuum, from the ACT Team — a mobile clinic that serves people living with severe mental illness — to our Green Keepers social enterprise business, which offers jobs and job training to people re-entering the workforce.

## **Providing Homeless Outreach and Supportive Housing**

Decent housing is a fundamental right. In our five housing properties, we provide safe, affordable homes for people who have experienced homelessness, those living with disabilities or mental illness, and older adults. In addition, we offer free legal services to help people remain in their homes and ensure that health and safety standards are met.

## **Enhancing Community**

Building community is a fundamental objective of Goddard Riverside. We do this by providing space and programming for community gatherings, facilitating community engagement by hosting community board meetings and meet-the-candidate events, and offering a rich array of arts programs open to the community.



# Preparing Children and Youth for Success

**Our programs for children and youth start in early childhood and go through college and beyond, providing a strong foundation at every step of the way.** Social-emotional wellness, academic preparedness, experiential opportunities such as camp, and access to higher education are critical to young people growing into self-reliant and contributing adults.



## Goddard Riverside believes all children deserve the chance to achieve their full potential.

Our Head Start and Early Learn programs are rooted in educational science. We use the Creative Curriculum, a play-based approach, to help children develop their abilities in reading, writing, counting, speech, spatial relations and motor skills.

Our After School programs provide a strong foundation for children as they head toward their teens. From art to computers to homework help, After School offers activities that are both fun and enriching.

Success in school is a critical first step toward self-sufficiency. The Star Learning Center provides individualized tutoring to help students in grades 2 through 12 overcome barriers to learning.

The RISE Youth Center at Lincoln Square engages youth in positive social relationships and connects them to learning experiences and opportunities.

Our Beacon Program provides young people with leadership training, academic counseling and activities from sports to science.

Learning to Work offers support for high school students to explore college and careers through internships and advisory. The goal is for each student to graduate with a meaningful post-secondary plan.

First-generation and low-income students face particular challenges on the road to completing college. The Options Center provides counseling and support to help students get the degree they need to pursue their dreams.

Every year, The Options Institute trains hundreds of counselors on its college access and success techniques.

### Spotlight on Head Start at West 95th Street

Our Head Start students have a special partnership with the American Museum of Natural History. They visit a classroom at the museum once a week, studying ecosystems and the organisms that live in them. Education staffers from the museum also visit the Head Start to help coordinate lessons. The goals include teaching students the tools of scientific inquiry (such as close observation), asking questions, and using scientific tools and vocabulary.

The program also plays another critical role: It helps ensure that these children and their families feel comfortable at the museum. Parents are encouraged to come to the weekly classes, and the museum gives out free tickets so that families can come on their own. That's important because research has found that about a third of U.S. adults feel unwelcome at science museums. That feeling was strongest at the bottom of the income scale.

After leaving Head Start, many children remain in programs at the museum, continuing to attend regularly and develop their knowledge of science.



# Enriching the Lives of Older Adults

**Goddard Riverside provides comprehensive community-based support for older adults.** Our programs help people remain in their own homes rather than moving into facilities with more intensive care. We provide services including home-delivered meals, subsidized housing, case management, and daily activities including socialization, learning, nutrition and exercise.





## Our programs help older adults “age in community” by providing easy access to support and activities close to home.

Our two Senior Centers offer healthy, reduced-price breakfast and lunch, free activities, and lots of opportunities to learn and socialize.

Goddard Riverside is home to two NORCs (Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities), which offer support and social activities for a building’s older residents. One NORC is in the Amsterdam Houses, a NYCHA complex at our Lincoln Square location, while the other is located in three buildings offering affordable housing in the area of Columbus Avenue and 94th Street.

Phelps House is our residence for older adults. It provides support for educational, medical, mental health, legal, and financial issues, as well as activities and social events.

The Home Delivered Meals program brings a hot, nutritious meal daily to more than 500 mobility-challenged aging adults in our neighborhood.

### Spotlight on Home Delivered Meals

For aging adults, social isolation and loneliness are associated with a variety of health issues and increased mortality. Home Delivered Meals goes beyond food delivery. Daily contact with the home-bound elderly enables our staff and volunteers to connect with a too-often isolated population and assess additional, unmet needs.

The Goddard staff is trained to look out for signs of problems that could worsen if not addressed. Equally important, home delivery provides the vital social connection that often diminishes with age.

In recent years we’ve added a dedicated social worker to provide extra help where it’s needed. Now we can provide services including;

- Tax preparation and bill paying
- Emergency grants
- Health care advocates
- Legal support and end-of-life issues
- Housing and assisted-living information
- Grocery delivery and house cleaning
- Friendly visits, pet services, and transportation
- Books by mail

With the additional help identified through daily contact, men and women in our community can live longer lives with fewer health emergencies and more social connection as they age in their own homes.



# Promoting Wellness and Recovery

**Goddard provides critical supports to adults with chronic mental illness and substance use issues.** We offer vocational rehabilitation and counseling to maximize each person's independence and well-being. We also help the members of the broader community gain access to the benefits and resources they deserve.





## Goddard Riverside sees potential in every person. Our programs for adults are designed to help people overcome challenges and support independent living.

The TOP Clubhouse works with people who have a history of mental illness, possibly including substance use or homelessness. TOP members work side by side with staff to organize and run the club, where they learn life and job skills.

Our TOP OP program helps people overcome barriers to employment by offering supportive work experiences to help them build their skills and employment history.

Green Keepers provides paid on-the-job training in horticulture, street sanitation, and pest control.

Our Assertive Community Treatment program is a mobile mental health clinic, providing psychiatrists, nurses, social workers, and case managers to help adults with severe mental illness live safely and well in the community.

### Spotlight on Green Keepers

Goddard Riverside Green Keepers, a social enterprise business established in 1995, provides paid, on-the-job training in horticulture, street sanitation, and pest control to formerly homeless men and women living with mental illness. While learning about horticulture and sanitation, program participants receive the intensive support needed to make the transition into paid employment. Their work provides beautification services to local associations, developers, and private individuals, a model that has proved successful both for the Green Keepers and their employers.

In recent years, several new contracts have enabled the Green Keepers to work through the winter and earn more. In addition, many have moved into independent employment.

"I've learned a lot from this job and I'm ready to go forward," said Christian, who has been a Green Keeper for 5 years. "It's really boosted my confidence."



# Providing Homeless Outreach and Supportive Housing

**Goddard Riverside provides housing and services to formerly homeless people.** In addition to a roof over their head, residents receive supportive services, such as mental health treatment and case management to help them maintain housing.



## As a pioneer of homeless outreach and supportive housing, Goddard Riverside continues to be a leader in helping New Yorkers move from the streets into permanent housing.

Our Homeless Outreach teams hit the streets daily to help people experiencing chronic homelessness. These trained housing specialists may spend months or years winning people's trust and assisting them through the process of securing permanent supportive housing.

Our four Supportive Housing residences provide safe and affordable housing with medication monitoring, case management, work readiness training, and other supportive services to help people make the transition out of homelessness.

The Havens program provides more intensive support to help homeless veterans and people with serious mental illnesses and/or substance use disorders transition from chronically homeless to permanently housed.

Housing Options draws on its relationships with dozens of supportive housing providers to help formerly chronically homeless people find housing. Staff writes the applications, accompanies clients on housing interviews, advocates for clients, and ultimately moves clients into their homes.

### Spotlight on Homeless Outreach

At 6:30 a.m., the Uptown Goddard homeless outreach team is already on the move, gently waking people who are slumbering on stone benches in Columbus Circle and Central Park. "Good morning," they say in soft tones. "Are you in need of housing? Do you have a place to stay?"

It can take months or even years of interactions like these to persuade a person experiencing homelessness to accept help. People may say no because they've had bad experiences in shelters. They may have a hard time trusting the goodwill of others.

"It's all about persistence," team member Gavin Wilkinson explains. "You build a relationship."

The first step is to document that a person is regularly sleeping outside. Then, the team helps get any identifying documents people need, such as birth certificates and photo IDs. Then they work together on applying for housing. The end goal is to help people move into permanent supportive housing, which offers services to smooth the transition to apartment living. After years of being on the streets, people often need to relearn skills like cleaning, cooking, and doing laundry. In supportive housing, case managers help them reconnect with their families and community and to find jobs.

Goddard Riverside offers four supportive housing residences on the Upper West Side and in Harlem. Most people who enter them do well; after a year, more than 90 percent are still housed.

Our homeless outreach teams have helped thousands of people make that transition. And every day, they're out working to help more.





# Enhancing Community

**Goddard Riverside offers programs and resources to strengthen neighborhoods.** This includes community organizing and legal assistance to help people defend themselves against eviction. We provide space to the Community Board and other local groups, and organize Town Halls and meet-the-candidate events. Our Single Stop office helps people get the government benefits they qualify for, and our arts programs bring people together and provide access to diverse views and perspectives.



## Strong neighborhoods support each of us to reach our fullest potential at every stage of life.

Our Community Arts program brings people together to enjoy the arts and develop their own artistic abilities. The Bernie Wohl Center hosts professional theater and music as well as classes for aspiring writers and actors. We also offer a summer Performing Arts Conservatory for children of all skill levels, offering professional instruction in dance, music, acting, and voice.

Single Stop connects low-income New Yorkers to the benefits and services they qualify for, including food stamps, legal assistance and health care.

The Goddard Riverside Law Project helps tenants organize to defend their rights and provides legal assistance to low-income New Yorkers facing eviction.

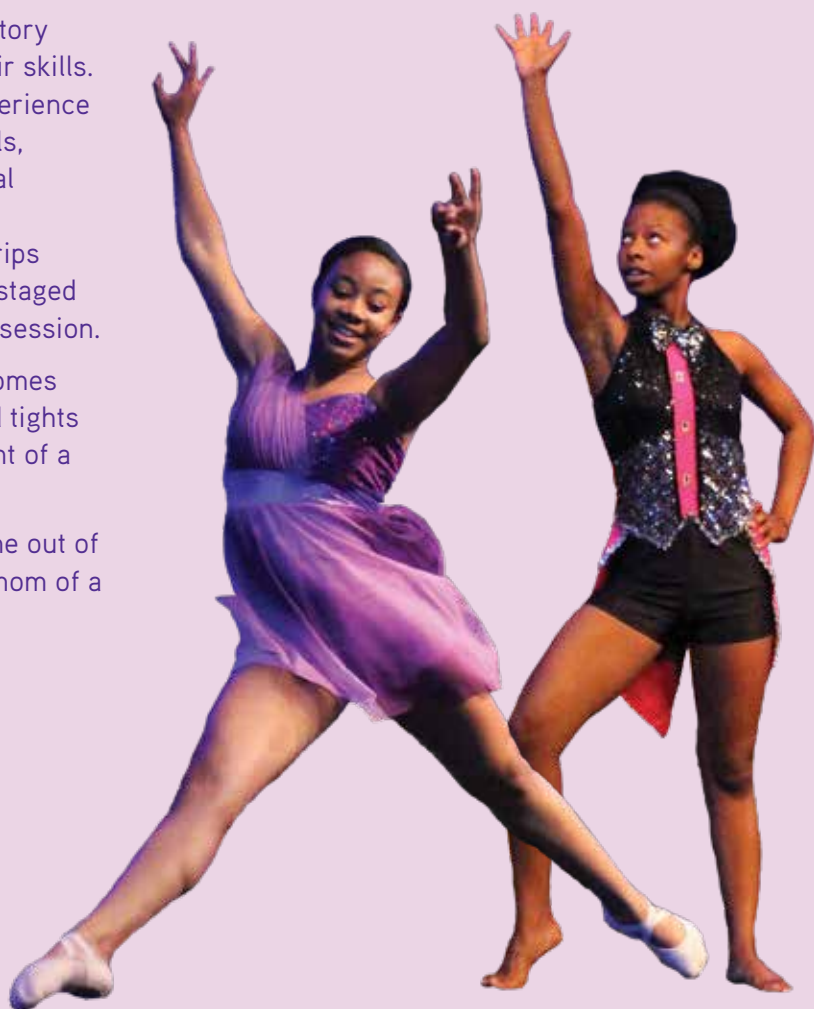
The Family Council encourages community members to advocate for themselves in local and national issues. Its activities include non-partisan voter registration and get-out-the-vote campaigns and community forums with local elected officials.

### Spotlight on Community Arts

Every summer, our Performing Arts Conservatory offers young people the chance to develop their skills. Over the course of seven weeks, students experience the magic of dance, stage presence, voice skills, and ensemble work from a staff of professional instructors and youth counselors. The young people also enjoy outdoor activities and field trips to local theaters. The campers present a fully staged production in a theater at the end of the camp session.

"I had no idea my daughter loved ballet. She comes home every night and puts on her leotards and tights to practice what she's learned," said one parent of a 13-year-old camper.

"He has always been shy, but this year he came out of his shell. He is so much more confident," the mom of a 9-year-old boy told us.







# Goddard Riverside

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