

The Next 100 Starts Now...





Faith, joy, kindness, perseverance, potential...

Who could have known that these words would lead to the founding of an organization in 1910 known as The Cabbage Patch?

Who could have imagined that 100 years later, these same words would continue to be the hallmark of a ministry that has profoundly changed the lives of tens of thousands of children and families?

The Cabbage Patch
Settlement House, Inc.

Celebrating 100 Years...

The year was 1910 and the lessons learned in Sunday School echoed in one young girl's heart. Louise Marshall was only 22 years old when she founded The Cabbage Patch Settlement House.

As a young woman coming of age in one of Louisville's finest neighborhoods, her life could have taken a totally different course.

But just a few blocks away, along the L&N railroad line, was an area known as The Cabbage Patch. It was a neighborhood dotted by factories, substandard housing and truck gardens, where families grew cabbages to supplement their meager wages.

Even to her young eye, the need was evident. Families were struggling to survive. And so, with a \$500 gift from her father and donations from her friends, The Cabbage Patch Settlement House was born. Its mission: to serve those in need in the spirit of Christian love.

From the beginning, attendance at Cabbage Patch activities soared, reaching 9,000 by 1913-1914. Programs included sports and recreation, sewing and cooking classes, woodworking and drama. Family needs such as food and clothing were provided. And always, education was emphasized.

Known as an organization ahead of its time, The Cabbage Patch introduced well-baby clinics, opened the first five-day-a-week nursery school, provided refuge during the Great Flood and a place to sleep for soldiers on weekend-leave during World War II.



Despite racial tension, by 1965 all The Patch sports teams were fully integrated. The 1980s brought programs to help parents end the generational cycle of poverty. In the 1990s a formal college scholarship program was established and in-house counseling services were added.

Most recently, The Patch embarked on the largest facility expansion and renovation in its history to meet the growing needs of at-risk children and families in the community.

In this, its 100th anniversary year, The Cabbage Patch celebrates the vision and commitment of one woman, Louise Marshall.

It celebrates the tireless efforts of staff, volunteers and donors.

It celebrates the thousands of Patch clients – past, present and future – who are a living testament to the fact that The Cabbage Patch can and does change lives.

It celebrates its rich legacy while looking to the future.

And it celebrates the core values, identified in a few key words nearly a century ago – words that continue to make a profound difference.



Hope



The Next 100 Starts Now...

In the following pages you will read about The Cabbage Patch's key program areas, its expanded facilities, its staff and its vision for the future. But the story is best told by the photographs, especially those of the children.

In their eyes you will see hope. In their expressions you will see tenacity, confidence, kindness and respect. In their faces you will see potential, promise and endless possibilities – because of a place called “The Cabbage Patch.”

Note: The Cabbage Patch is committed to protecting the confidentiality of those individuals it serves. Therefore, while the stories that follow are based on real cases at The Patch, they are not the personal stories of those pictured here.

Our Programs...

RECREATION/YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

"I did it! I never thought I could, but I did it," this teenage girl proclaims after completing The Patch's 100-Mile High Adventure Canoe trip. "You have to earn the right to participate," she says with a smile. "I had to train for 12 weeks. I had to learn about safety practices, how to pitch a tent, what foods to eat for energy, even how to build a campfire. And when you have two people in a canoe, you learn to work together. It wasn't all fun - there's nothing 'fun' about being wet and cold. It wasn't easy. Paddling a canoe is hard work. But I did it!"

The Recreation/Youth Development Program focuses on after-school and summer activities for school-aged children. Through a variety of age-appropriate programs, including athletics, outdoor education, camping and creative arts, children engage in safe play. They learn such life skills as teamwork, commitment, discipline, sportsmanship and respect. Relationships with staff and volunteers are key to the program's success. Children gain self-confidence. They experience what it means to be "winners in life."

CONFIDENCE



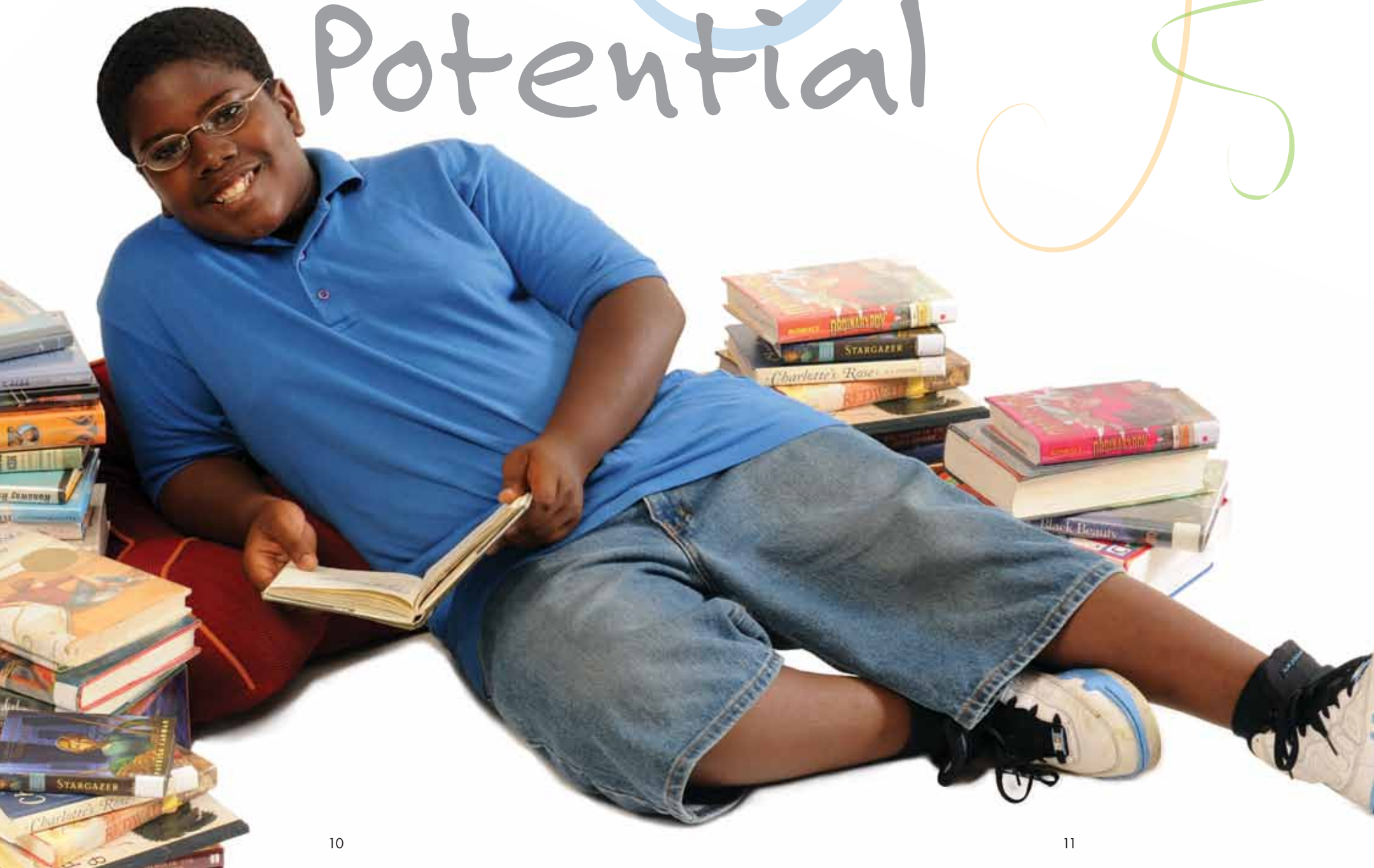
EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

"I would have been on the streets, a high school dropout. And college? Not even a possibility," this 23-year-old admits. "But I started coming to The Patch and they showed me that it takes real courage to stay in school. They kept after me, talked about college, helped me study for the ACTs and navigate college applications and financial aid forms. They believed in me, in my potential, even when I didn't believe in myself. Now look at me—the first in my family to graduate from college."

The goal of the Educational Opportunities Program is to help at-risk youth reach their academic potential. That

process begins with "Homework Helper," an after-school program available to children from the first grade through high school. Individual tutoring, especially in reading and math, is available. A computer lab provides many children with the only access they have to a computer. For college-capable youth, the staff collaborates with parents and teachers, sets goals, provides ACT training, sponsors campus visits, and helps with college and financial aid applications. Scholarship assistance is provided too. Once in college the relationship continues, with staff providing ongoing emotional support and guidance.

Potential



COUNSELING

“He sat in the circle with the other little boys, his hands in a tight fist,” the counselor shared. “Despite the fact that he was only 10 years old, you could feel just how angry he was – and how scared. Other staff members confirmed that his behavior had changed significantly in recent weeks. So I started to check-in with him and slowly the troubling story spilled out about his mother’s new boyfriend. Both mother and son started coming to counseling. It wasn’t a ‘quick fix.’ It took time. But the abusive boyfriend is gone and this child is slowly learning to trust again.”

The Counseling Services Program provides trusted counseling to at-risk children and families at no charge. A full-time, in-house counselor provides children and youth with a safe place to talk about a range of problems and emotions. The counselor also assists staff in identifying children with behavioral issues and as those issues are addressed, often much deeper family problems are uncovered. Counseling is provided on-site in individual and group settings for children, youth and adults. The focus is to bring healing to the entire family.

Trust





FAMILY SERVICES

"I love my children more than anything. But I felt like a failure," this single mom quietly states. "I was beyond stressed, struggling to provide for them. I knew about The Patch's after-school programs. It's my kids' favorite place to go. What I didn't know was that The Patch would profoundly change my life. The staff cared. They listened. They helped me learn to stand on my own – to set a budget, find affordable housing, be a better parent, even go to school. 'Failure' isn't a word in their vocabulary. All I heard was 'you can.' I recently graduated with a degree in nursing and I am currently studying for my boards."

The goal of the Family Services Program is to provide skills and services to parents that promote self-sufficiency and improve the quality of family life. Working closely with a core group of approximately 50 families, the emphasis is on prevention, not just intervention, helping families to develop long-term solutions to the obstacles they face and to provide stability. Education is emphasized, from getting a GED to attending trade school to going to college. By tackling the root causes of poverty and providing life skills, families are able to break the multi-generational cycle, impacting parents and children alike.

Self-Reliance

Building for the Future...

OUR FACILITIES

The inscription reads, "Through this window a vision – with the hand of God, another 100 years!" A powerful message – one of over a hundred blessings and prayers, written on the bare studs and unfinished walls before the expansion and renovation project of The Patch was completed.

Today the sound of laughter can be heard throughout along with the wonderful, chaotic noise of children at play.

A basketball game is in progress in the gym. Teens are in the new fitness room training for a bike trip. In the computer lab, a group of students are furiously competing with children around the world in an online math contest. Parents are in the new kitchen, learning how to prepare healthy meals on a budget.

That's just a snapshot of The Cabbage Patch's greatly expanded and renovated facilities. There are multiple-use classrooms and a new fellowship hall. The gym has been completely renovated, replacing the 80-year-old floor. Dedicated spaces for visual and performing arts programs now exist and an enclosed walkway connects all the buildings.

The Cabbage Patch has always been a local, neighborhood-based ministry. The majority of clients live within a three-mile radius. It has been located at its facilities on South Sixth Street since 1929.

Now with the expansion and renovation project completed, The Cabbage Patch will continue to provide generations of neighborhood children room to grow – physically, emotionally, intellectually and spiritually – building foundations for life.



Hard Work

OUR STAFF

"The Patch is like 'family love' – the way it should be," this teen confides. "They care about you, encourage you, set you straight when you need it, and they never give up on you. They are the 'other parent' I don't have in my life."

A core value of The Cabbage Patch is the belief in the preeminence of relationships in changing lives. Key to fulfilling that core value is the staff – the organization's greatest asset. Of the 20 full-time staff, 5 staff members have a combined length of service of 102 years and two members of the staff, in key program positions, are alumni. Furthermore, 75% of the senior management staff and program staff hold advanced degrees.

OUR VOLUNTEERS

"The Seed to Table Program began as a way to honor the memory of two special people in my life," Kathy Cary, the renowned and nationally acclaimed Louisville chef states. "The idea behind it: to teach at-risk, inner-city children about growing fresh vegetables, eating healthy and learning to cook." Thanks to dedicated volunteers,

17 years later multiple generations of children at The Patch have grown prize-winning vegetables and prepared foods they never would have tried otherwise. "The kids also learn the meaning of the word 'cooperation,'" one volunteer states. "Nothing teaches that quite like weeding a garden or cooking together! And they experience the sense of 'community,' of 'family,' that comes from sharing a meal."

Volunteers are vital to the ministry of The Cabbage Patch. Hundreds of individuals, beginning with the Board of Directors, put in countless hours helping with special events and fundraising. Groups of volunteers help from time to time with facility maintenance and upkeep. And still others work in program areas performing such labors of love as coaching youth, reading to elementary school students, teaching children and parents about nutrition and how to cook, and helping with arts and crafts.

Cooperation



Perseverance



OUR FUNDRAISING

"A core tenet at The Cabbage Patch is if clients are encouraged to practice self-sufficiency, then the organization should model that practice as well." — *Board of Directors*

Each year, The Cabbage Patch must raise between \$800,000 and \$1,000,000 in annual giving and special events income. It is no small task. It takes a tremendous amount of work on the part of the staff and the board, and it requires the steadfast and generous support of hundreds and hundreds of donors.

Unlike many other nonprofit, social-service agencies, The Cabbage Patch by choice does not participate in funding streams that can create dependency. Therefore The Cabbage Patch is not a Metro United Way member agency and does not accept government grants.

The Cabbage Patch is constantly engaged in planning for the organization's long-term stability and its future. To that end, the Board embarked on a multimillion dollar capital campaign in August of 2007 (when the Dow Jones Industrial average was at an all time high of 14,000) to fund the first-ever expansion and renovation of the organization's facilities. To date the campaign, "Give the Kids Room to Grow," has raised \$4.7 million of its \$6 million goal.

Despite the challenges of the economic downturn, the Board continues with due diligence to secure the remaining funding, calling on individuals, businesses and foundations for support. The ultimate goal is to avoid any long-term debt service in order to maintain the level of programs to meet clients' needs.

Additionally, The Cabbage Patch is focusing on new strategies to build its endowment and to increase planned-giving – all in keeping with the organization's history of sound fiscal practices and long-range planning.

Respect

OUR ALUMNI

"My mother, who is 94, learned to sew at The Cabbage Patch," this email begins. "Her first project — a pin cushion! She went on to school, earned an apprenticeship and was a beautiful seamstress. But more important, my mother found love, attention, social graces, spiritual growth and good friends at The Cabbage Patch. Her family was extremely poor. She had five older brothers and her father deserted the family. All the children grew up to be self-supporting fine citizens who all raised fine families. My brother heads a corporate quality control division. I have my doctorate and am a high school principal. Today times are so challenging. I pray that The Cabbage Patch will continue until my children's children are 94."

There are thousands of such stories. Alumni of all ages, all walks of life, all types of professions talk about the foundation they received at The Patch. The words that appear throughout this report are their words — the core values and life skills that they identify as having learned at The Cabbage Patch.

Many alumni come back to volunteer their time or offer their financial support. Others serve as mentors. Still others return to tell their story, to show the next generation, "you can be anything you want to be when you grow up."

As a part of the 100th year celebration, The Cabbage Patch is asking alumni to share their stories and memories on line at www.cabbagepatch.org. Click on "Calling All Alumni."



Faith...

“Faith” isn’t a word that is easily captured in a photograph. With “joy” it’s in the smile. With “determination” it’s in the brow. With “hope” it’s in the eyes. But faith is more intangible.

Yet faith is the intrinsic, invincible foundation on which The Cabbage Patch is built. At The Patch, faith is taught by example and it takes many forms, including faith in others (*Trust*), faith in the future (*Potential*), and faith in yourself (*Confidence*). Most important, it begins with faith in God and showing the love of Christ, over and over again, as illustrated throughout this report.

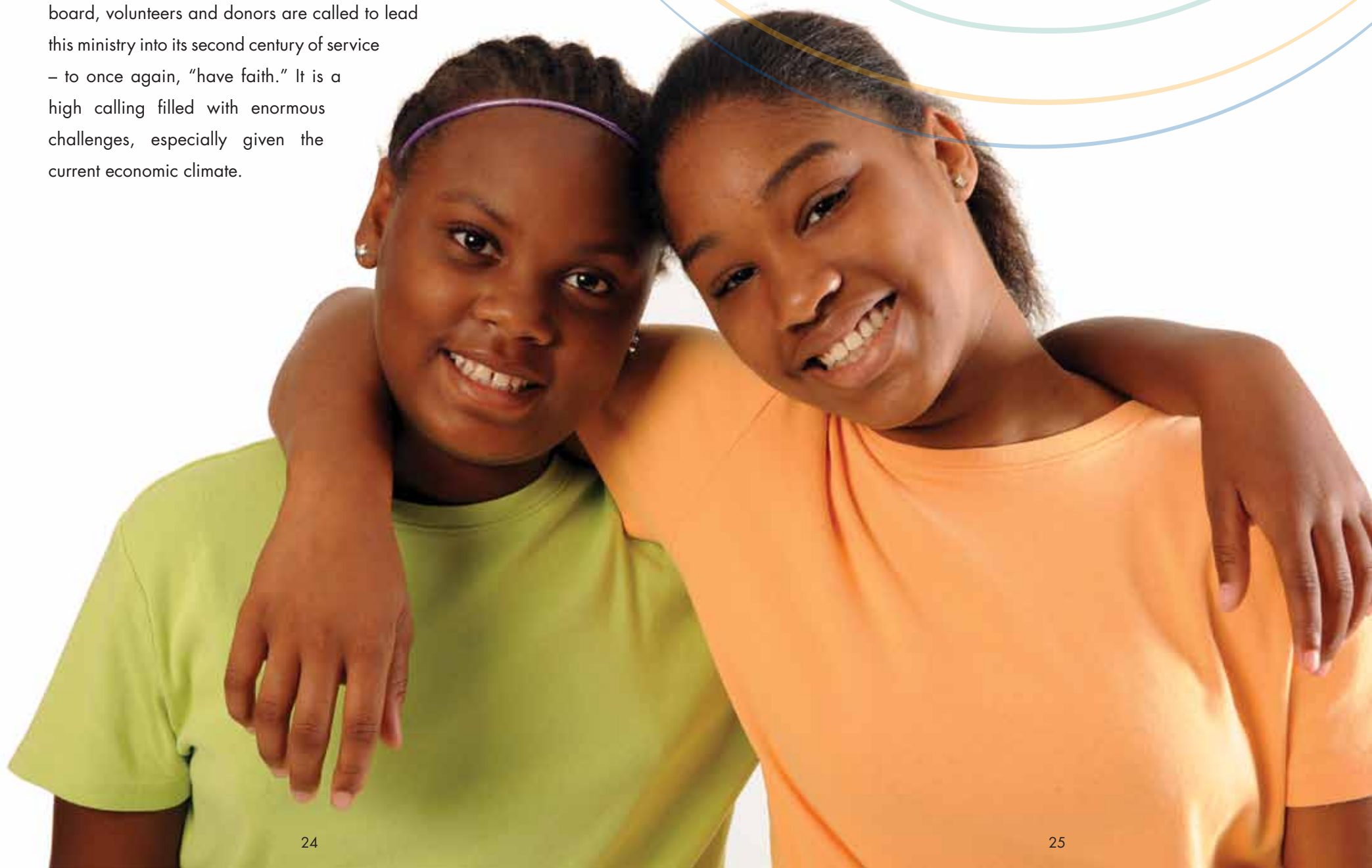
In this 100th anniversary year, yet another generation of staff, board, volunteers and donors are called to lead this ministry into its second century of service – to once again, “have faith.” It is a high calling filled with enormous challenges, especially given the current economic climate.

But for the children pictured here, the next 100 years at The Patch have already begun. Despite the hardships they face, they have aspirations. They have hopes. They have dreams – big dreams.

The legacy continues. The “Kingdom building,” as Louise Marshall called it, is more important than ever. The possibilities are endless.

And the children? The children are counting on The Patch – and counting on you – putting their faith in the belief that with God’s help, they can live out those very big dreams.

With your help, their lives will be profoundly changed.



Snapshot...

MISSION

The Cabbage Patch Settlement House is a nonprofit, Christian organization that exists to empower families and children to be self-sufficient by helping them maximize their spiritual, social, emotional, physical, moral, economic and educational potential. It has been building hope and profoundly changing lives since its founding in 1910.

JOY



CLIENT STATISTICS (based on Census data)

In The Cabbage Patch service area:

60% of the children live in poverty

30% of the households are headed

by single mothers

37% of those 25 years of age or older

are not high school graduates

59% of the households makes less than

\$25,000 a year

ANNUAL SERVICE STATISTICS

Children, youth and adults served: over 1,200

Families served: 700

Daily attendance: 100

Total annual client visits/contacts: 23,793

CORE PROGRAMS

Recreation/Youth Development

Educational Opportunities

Counseling & Family Services

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES

20 full-time and 6 part-time

(not including summer staff)

75% of the current full-time program and

senior management staff have advanced degrees

VOLUNTEER STATISTICS


Over 1,800 volunteers gave more than

15,000 hours

LOCATION

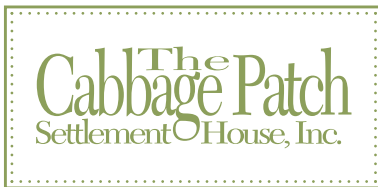
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Your support has never been
more important.

Please give generously.
Invest in the priceless gift of hope.



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