Patchworks SUMMER 2024

THE CABBAGE PATCH SETTLEMENT HOUSE



Dear Patch Friends and Supporters,

As we enjoy the warmth of summer, I am filled with a deep sense of gratitude and excitement for the progress and achievements of the youth at The Patch over the past few months. Summer always marks a season of growth and new beginnings, and this year has been no exception. Our programs have flourished, with many new young people joining our activities. Meanwhile, our regular members have enjoyed the change of pace brought by camps, enrichment programs, and the ever-popular swimming field trips. Their energy and enthusiasm inspire us daily!

One of the highlights of this season has been the launch of our new summer enrichment program, S.T.R.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Reading, Engineering, Art, & Math). This initiative combats summer learning loss among our elementary-age members by offering engaging math and reading exercises in a fun environment. Alongside our classic summer camps,

S.T.R.E.A.M. has also provided a safe and supportive space for our youth to explore

their passions, develop new skills, and build lasting friendships.

In addition to our programs, we have been fortunate to establish new partnerships with local businesses and grant making organizations that share our commitment to youth development. These collaborations have allowed us to expand our reach and resources, ensuring that we can continue to offer high-quality services and support to our young people and their families.

I am excited about the future and the many possibilities that lie ahead. With your continued support, we will keep making a difference in the lives of our Louisville youth, one step at a time. Thank you for being a part of this journey with us.

Wishing you all a joyful and fulfilling summer,

Corey G. Miller **Executive Director**

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Stepping Stones to Family Success

More than two decades ago, Patch Parent monthly meetings began at The Cabbage Patch to provide tools and resources to help families succeed despite challenges of parenting and life.

Doug Holm, Family Development Manager at The Cabbage Patch, describes these gatherings as stepping stones. Just as stepping stones might serve as a walkway to safely guide you through the yard around your home, these meetings serve as connectors providing a strong footpath forward.

"As a stepping stone, we connect parents with people and local organizations that can help them take that next crucial step towards solutions," Holm said. "It's about equipping parents with the tools they need to thrive."

Each Patch Parents monthly gathering is designed to address diverse needs and real-life challenges. From sessions on job hunting and financial planning to discussions on mental health, tenant rights, and estate planning, every topic is chosen to give parents the knowledge they need to build better lives and brighter futures for their families.

"We educate and empower because we believe that when families thrive, our entire Louisville community benefits," explains Holm. "Together, we're stronger."



Summer Camps 2024



Special thanks to Kosair for Kids' Healthy Summer Camps grant for supporting The Patch's summer camps. We are dedicated and committed to promoting childhood health and wellness as every child deserves to be their best self. Thank you again, Kosair for Kids, for supporting our Louisville youth to reach their potential.



Teen Leader Rising with Confidence

When Amauryie was younger and attended The Patch, he noticed that Teen Leaders were well respected, had great manners, were polite, and treated the young members with dignity. Experiencing their caring kindness planted a desire and goal inside of him to someday be a Patch Team Leader himself.

Today, Amauryie has achieved his goal by serving as a Patch Teen Leader for more than a year.

Teen Leaders assist Patch programming staff while receiving a small stipend. In addition to assisting staff, they are required to attend monthly learning meetings on topics like resume building, communications, and public speaking. It is all about building the teens up to be successful and reach their full potential.

This summer, Amauryie is learning even more about what it means to exhibit leadership aura. For him, he says it is about making sure others feel welcome and want to be around him because of the value and respect he shows others.

"I am proud of how far I have come," he said with confidence. "I always wanted to be a role model for younger kids and someone they could trust. Being a Teen Leader at The Patch feels tremendous. I show the younger generation things like how to take turns, show respect to each other and not argue, and that there are better ways to resolve issues."

The leadership he is learning at The Patch is also spilling over into his home life and Central High School where he is a sophomore.

"The Patch has been a haven for me," he said. "It's like a safe place, a sanctuary. It has truly helped me with my character development. I don't know where I would be in life today without The Patch. It has not only made me more confident and social, but it has also made me a better listener who values and respects others."



The 2024 Cabbage Patch Golf Tournament was a successful event and a force for good in our community. On June 3rd, ninety-seven golfers and over twenty-five volunteers gathered for this annual event at Big Spring Country Club in Louisville, KY.

Golfer packages were a hit, and the 19th-hole activity added extra excitement with chances to win rare spirits! Though the Maserati GranTurismo, sponsored by BlueGrass MOTORSPORT, remained unclaimed, our golfers put forth their best efforts.

Arabella and Elianie, two of our Cabbage Patch Scholars, were honored that day. As Patch College Scholars, they focus on their studies, cultivate their talents, and embrace every opportunity that college presents. The support from the tournament is paving the way for them and other Patch College Scholars to acquire skills and experiences that will shape their futures.

We are so thankful to the co-chairs, Megan Imel and Justin Moore for their contributions in making this event successful! We're also immensely grateful to our golfers, volunteers, Eagle Sponsors—Stock Yards Bank & Trust and The Mackin Family Foundation—and Corporate Sponsors: Kosair for Kids, Optimist Club of Louisville, TC Realty, and LG&E and KU.



Co-Chairs: Megan Imel and Justin Moore

The Patch Introduces S.T.R.E.A.M. Program to Beat "Summer Slide"

The new S.T.R.E.A.M. Academic Retention Program, which stands for Science, Technology, Reading, Engineering, Art, & Math, represents a ground-breaking initiative unlike traditional summer programs. The Cabbage Patch has had a long history of creating and developing its own education curriculum. However, given The Patch's free-choice model which gives youth the option to choose their activities, there was a lack of consistency and attendance in educational programming during the summer months. Consequently, educational progress suffered, leading to what educators call the "summer slide"—a decline in academic skills and knowledge retention. Recognizing this challenge and need, The Patch's educational team identified the need for a more structured approach to combat summer learning loss. Thus, they created and designed a tailored program aimed at not only preventing regression but also nurturing a passion for learning.

Designed for ages 8-12, the free month-long program aims to ignite curiosity, encourage critical thinking, and equip kids with the skills they need to excel in the upcoming school year. What truly sets S.T.R.E.A.M. apart from other summer learning opportunities is the focus and commitment to personalized learning. Each week, campers take comprehensive math and reading assessments to identify their individual strengths and areas for growth. The Patch's team of dedicated educators then craft tailored customized lessons ensuring that each child receives the support they need to succeed. At the end of the program, parents receive detailed progress

reports, allowing them to track their child's development and celebrate their achievements.

"The goal is to help children not fall behind, and prevent learning setbacks" said Rachel Daniel, Educational Opportunities Manager at The Cabbage Patch. "We want to see improved growth and increased test scores. The whole point is to prevent recession of knowledge that may happen during summer months. It is about growth and consistency."

The success stories are many.

Bre'Elle excelled in the highest-level S.T.R.E.A.M. math group, effortlessly handling fifth and sixth grade math despite just finishing fourth grade. However, she faced challenges in reading. S.T.R.E.A.M. supported her in maintaining a positive attitude as she worked on improving her reading skills. Throughout the program, Bre'Elle's cheerful demeanor brought laughter and she actively volunteered for tasks, demonstrating her helpful nature.

Jordan, who recently completed second grade, made significant strides in his math skills through the S.T.R.E.A.M. Program. With determination, he tackled math concepts at the third and fourth grade levels.

Noah initially required assistance with every math question when he joined the program. Through encouragement and practice, by the end of S.T.R.E.A.M., he confidently solved problems independently.









For Semaj, his initial S.T.R.E.A.M. assessment showed he was at a high level of reading. Each day, the educational staff looked forward to reading groups and Semaj's thoughtful insights as he continually elevated reading discussions. By diving into S.T.R.E.A.M. this summer, Semaj is able to not only maintain, but grow his high level of reading ability when he returns to school this fall.

With each child's journey, S.T.R.E.A.M. has proven to be more than a remedy for educational setbacks—it's a

newfound confidence. Their stories showcase The Patch's commitment to combating the "summer slide" while fostering a love for learning that extends beyond the classroom.



Lunch time!

Patch Partners: Cultivating the Next Generation of Leaders

Patch Partners, the dedicated young professionals' group of The Cabbage Patch, has been instrumental in enriching the lives of youth and families through their commitment to education and community engagement. Since its inception in 2018, Patch Partners has welcomed hundreds of new individuals to The Cabbage Patch community and successfully raised over \$75,000 to enhance and expand a variety of essential

programs. Their mission is clear: to provide educational opportunities, foster a strong sense of belonging, and empower Patch youth through meaningful engagement and support.

Patch Partners has three primary goals:

- 1. Fundraising for program expansion to ensure the best resources and opportunities for children and families of The Patch
- 2. Dedicated volunteer service
- 3. Community outreach to introduce The Cabbage Patch to new audiences within social, professional, and religious circles to foster a wider network of support

In achieving these goals, the group organizes and hosts several events throughout the year that make a significant impact. Their Annual Bowling Bash raises over \$20,000 annually for the Educational Opportunities Scholarship Fund. Additionally, they play a crucial role in the Annual Back-to-School Drive, providing essential supplies for students. At the end of the school year, they organize a party to celebrate the academic achievements of our Patch kids.

Grady Nutt, main contributor of this article and President of Patch Partners (2022-2024) recalls: "The highlight of my involvement with Patch Partners was the success of our inaugural Bowling Bash, which benefitted my late friend Fenton Kottkamp's Educational Opportunities Scholarship Fund. Seeing the group come together to support Fenton's family was incredibly heartwarming and is something I will always

• cherish "

The Patch Partners measures success not only by dollars raised, but by the tangible impact on students' lives. They take pride in providing backpacks filled with school supplies, tutoring students, and engaging in activities like basketball and pickleball. These

> contributions create lasting effects in the community, reflecting the true value of their efforts.

Since 2021, the group has grown from just two members to a current number of 20 and is still growing. Despite

their busy schedules, the members' dedication speaks volumes about their commitment. Their primary goal of cultivating the next generation of leaders for The Cabbage Patch is well on its way to being achieved. With passionate young professionals leading the charge, the future of The Cabbage Patch is indeed exceptionally bright.





Joyful Giving: Education, Hard Work, and Vision for the Future

Bill and Susan Grubbs have embraced the wisdom of Roosevelt Chin: "You don't work your way out of poverty, you educate your way out." Inspired by this belief, they have chosen to support The Cabbage Patch's Educational Opportunities program through their estate plan.

Their decision was not just influenced by Chin's dedication to The Patch over five decades, but also by a deeply personal story from Bill's family. Bill's father, who did not attend college, became a secretary in a railroad law department, and was encouraged by colleagues to pursue law school at night. His determination paid off when he later faced seasoned lawyers with degrees from elite colleges and law schools, in a case before the United States Supreme Court. When asked if he was intimidated by the opposing attorneys, Bill's father declared that he could outwork them and did so, winning the case. This resilience and commitment inspired Bill and Susan to include The Patch in their estate plans, believing wholeheartedly in the life-changing power of hard work and education.

If you, like the Grubbs, have experienced firsthand the life-changing impact of education and wish to create similar opportunities for young people at The Patch, contact Jennifer Scott, Director of Major Gifts and Planned Giving at jscott@cabbagepatch.org to explore ways you can give now or include The Patch in your estate plans.



Bill and Susan Grubbs

NAMED FUND SPOTLIGHT

Discovering Joy through Nature



Howard and Liz Dohrman always believed in being responsible stewards of God's creation. They instilled this value in their children, emphasizing the importance of nature as a place to explore, experience, and learn.

Inspired by her parent's beliefs and her own travel and outdoor experiences, Leslie Taylor established the Dohrman/Taylor Family Recreation/Youth Development fund at The Cabbage Patch. This fund gives children from The Patch the opportunity to experience the joy and wonder of God's creation beyond the city limits.

Discover how you can share your values and passions with the children of The Cabbage Patch by considering a named fund.





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Contact Laura Goodman, Director of Annual Giving & Marketing at 502-753-4427 or email Igoodman@cabbagepatch.org for more information

