

## **WINTER 2024**

#### **2023 IN REVIEW**

In 2023 Boys Hope Girls Hope Cincinnati celebrated 40 years serving youth and families in Greater Cincinnati. At our Hearts for Hope Gala in September, current and former friends, supporters, and scholars celebrated this milestone and several accomplishments that took place last year.

In April BHGH Cincinnati launched our Girls Academy Program at the Gardner House in partnership with Purcell Marion High School providing our services to 12 high school freshmen young women. As a result of our team's efforts, we have seen substantial growth in the average grade point average (GPA) of our scholars, as well as enhancing the mental and emotional health services we provide to our scholars and their engagement in community service. Our team has also successfully redefined our scholar profile and, in doing so, strengthened our recruitment efforts to identify families whose needs we are best positioned to meet. 2023 also saw BHGH Cincinnati lead the BHGH Network in staff and scholar retention while also providing support to 12 Collegians through our program, the largest number we have ever had at one time. Truly it was an amazing year that sets us up well moving forward.







# **LEAVE A LEGACY**

Please consider planning a gift that will support Boys Hope Girls Hope of Cincinnati through your will, trust, IRA, or life insurance policy. This is an easy and effective way to positively impact future generations of scholars and collegians being helped by our BHGH program. You will be providing **HOPE** as an investment in our programming, scholarships, and career pathways that directly and deeply benefit young people who have tremendous potential and just need the opportunity.

Please contact our Executive Director, Maurice Huey at mhuey@bhgh.org to learn how you can leave a legacy and build hope for tomorrow.

OUR MISSION:

# MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

Since joining Boys Hope Girls Hope Cincinnati last fall, there have been several things that I have been struck by that speak to the impact that our organization has made in our community over the past 40 years. The incredible team we have, along with the number of passionate supporters of our mission truly position us well to expand our work to serve more youth and families in the next few years.

As we head into 2024 there are so many exciting things we are looking forward to, including:

- Launching our Boys Academy Program with Purcell Marian, in addition to adding another cohort to our Girls Academy at the same location.
- Enhancing the social-emotional and mental health support for our scholars by utilizing tools that will allow for better identification of needs and improved measurement of the impact that our interventions have for our scholars.
- Exploring more school partnerships that will allow us to enhance and develop more ways that we can support scholars and families through our programs.
- Adding new members to our Executive Board, including Karl Thomsen, Co-Owner, Invisible Technologies.

It is for these and so many other reasons that all of us here at Boys Hope Girls Hope Cincinnati thank you for being key drivers of the success of our scholars and collegians. Through your support through financial contributions, as well as your time and talents, we are fulfilling our mission of nurturing and guiding motivated young people to become well-educated, career-ready men and women for others. We hope that you continue to partner with us to make a lasting impact for the next generation of leaders in our community.

Thank you!

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Maurice Huey
Executive Director

Karl Thomsen

## **SAVE THE DATE**

Online Auction: April 1 -30 (Link posted mid-March on our website: www.bhghcincinnati.org)
Walk to Hope virtual month-long step challenge: April 1-30 (https://boyshopegirlshope.org/walk2024/)
HopeFest Thurby Derby Party - Thursday, May 2 - Venue TBD

#### **Upcoming Events:**

Scholar Graduation Party - May 23 (Venue TBD)

#### **LEADERSHIP**

EXECUTIVE BOARD CHAIRMAN: STEVEN ARNOLD
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS:
CARL ADKINS, JULIE BRISTOW, MELANIE BURDEN, MICHAEL BURKE, DAVID CONWAY, LEON HAMPTON,
AARON HASLAM, NOREEN HAYES, MICHELLE JONES, GRAHAM MERCURIO, KERI MUELLER, KRISTIN OSTBY,
GREG SCRUGGS, KARL THOMSEN, CHRIS VOLLMER, JR.,
DR. PATRICIA WHITE, DR. H. JAMES WILLIAMS

## **RESIDENTIAL & ACADEMY PROGRAMS**

#### **Giving Back**

During the holidays our Girls Academy scholars embraced the spirit of giving by whipping up batches of homemade cookies and crafting heartfelt Christmas cards for the elderly members of the community. The Lincoln Crawford Nursing Home experienced a wave of warmth and love, making this holiday season extra special for everyone involved.





#### **Launch of Boys Academy Program**

As a result of the overwhelming reception and success of our Girls Academy at Purcell Marian, BHGH Cincinnati will be expanding our partnership with the creation of a Boys Academy Program at the same site. Following the same tenets of our Girls Academy, the Boys Academy will provide academic, social-emotional, mental health and mentoring and tutoring support for an initial cohort of 8-12 high school freshmen young men. Particular focus will be placed on college and career awareness and readiness, as well as preparation for college testing, applications for colleges and scholarships, and exploring employment opportunities. The Boys Academy will operate out of the HCS House on our boys campus in Finneytown.

# **COLLEGIAN SPOTLIGHT**



**Kingsley Fomba** 

Kingsley, a featured speaker at our 40th Anniversary Gala, successfully graduated from The Ohio State University in December. We are extremely proud of his hard work over the past few years as he obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Economics. Despite his involvement in numerous activities, he made it onto the dean's list at OSU. Additionally, he interned with us during the summer, providing invaluable support to the program team on various projects. Kingsley is pursuing a career either with the Ohio Department of Health or in the field of finance. Kingsley truly embodies the essence of what BHGH stands for.



## **ADDITIONAL WAYS YOU CAN HELP**

- **VOLUNTEER!** We are seeking mentors, tutors, and general volunteers for our BHGH Residential and Academy programs. If interested, contact us at: BHGHCincinnati@bhqh.org
- SUPPORT BHGH THROUGH YOUR KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM! Simply log in to your Kroger Shopper's Card account, click Community Rewards and choose Boys Hope Girls Hope of Cincinnati as the charity you would like to support.
- HELP US WITH MEALS! It's important for our scholars to eat a healthy diet. We provide all meals and snacks when our scholars are in program. Please consider donating a Kroger Gift card, organizing a small Food Drive with your friends/family/colleagues or share your garden produce with us! We provide after school snacks and dinner for nearly 40 scholars in our Residential and Academy programs. Individual snacks (energy bars, nuts, trail mix, chips, cookies, etc.) and fresh fruits and vegetables are appreciated!
- MAKE A DONATION! Consider a monetary gift that will go directly to operating costs to care for our scholars.
  - \*Check with your employer to see if they have a matching gift program and double your gift!
  - \*Memorial and Honor gifts are a lovely gesture to celebrate a life or an achievement.
  - \*We welcome donations of new school supplies and personal care items.

Know that your donation directly supports our programs, growing our reach and deepening our impact in the community.

TO MAKE A MONETARY DONATION ONLINE - SCAN THE OR CODE OR VISIT **US AT WWW.BHGHCINCINNATI.ORG/DONATE** 



#### SINCERE THANKS TO OUR 2024 TITLE SPONSOR











FOR MORE SCHOLAR AND COLLEGIAN NEWS FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA Search for @CINCINNATIBHGH on Facebook, Instagram & Twitter. Each week we share highlights featuring our scholars and collegians, information about the program, career openings, volunteer opportunities, upcoming fundraisers, and more!