Grove Park Foundation Marks the Beginning of a New Chapter for Children and Families

On September 10th, the Grove Park Foundation and its partners broke ground for the KIPP Houston Park Academy at YMCA Early Learning Center and school-based health clinic. This $81 million investment in the Grove Park neighborhood is the result of a partnership between the Grove Park Neighborhood, Grove Park Foundation, Atlanta Public Schools (APS), KIPP Metro Atlanta Schools, and the YMCA of Metro Atlanta. This exciting milestone is the first major step in a series of investments in the health, arts, and affordability in the Grove Park neighborhood intended to boost health, equity, affordability, and economic mobility.

The new school building, early learning center, and health clinic are scheduled to open in the fall of 2020. The Grove Park Foundation, established in 2017, has been working as the “community quarterback,” coordinating the efforts of residents and partners in a long-term, holistic revitalization effort using the Purpose Built Communities model first established by the East Lake Foundation.

Purpose Built Communities Celebrates 10th Anniversary; Receives Large Investment from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

At its 10th Annual Purpose Built Communities Conference, the largest gathering of residents and foundations’ President and CEO, Dr. James E. Beaser, announced a major grant to Purpose Built Communities.

Purpose Built Communities is a nonprofit consulting organization founded in 2008 to help communities across the country replicate the East Lake model in other urban areas of concentrated poverty around the nation.

The goal will allow the work and mission of Purpose Built Communities in the fields of community development and public health. Through a two-year, multi-year collaboration, Purpose Built Network members will be able to discuss the successes and lessons around neighborhood revitalization and share best practices that will strengthen communities across the country.

At the annual conference, Purpose Built Communities also announced the addition of seven new neighborhoods to its national network including neighborhoods in Athens and Athens GA, Alabama, Austin, TX, Dallas, TX, and two in Cleveland, OH. This brings the total networks of communities in the Purpose Built Network to 97 nationwide.

East Lake Family YMCA Announces New Executive Director

The East Lake Family YMCA is excited to announce that Tony Kimbrough, a YMCA staff member since 2013, has joined the branch as its Executive Director. Tony has served as the Director of Member Development in Philadelphia, PA, Executive Director in Tampa, FL, and most recently, Executive Director of the Arthur G. Brown Family YMCA in Atlanta. Over the last two years with the Brown Family YMCA, Tony managed a high-quality early-learning center with a dual-language immersion curriculum, grew the youth development programs, and worked very closely with Centennial Academy and the Centennial Place neighborhood. His experience and skills will be a great asset to the East Lake Family YMCA.

Dwight Lindsey, the East Lake Family YMCA’s former Executive Director, has been promoted to Chief Advancement Officer for the YMCA of Metro Atlanta. He is now responsible for leading and more closely aligning the financial development and marketing functions to build increased brand awareness for YMCA of Metro Atlanta.

Christmas Tree donation from Tradition Trees

Tradition Trees is proud to support the East Lake Foundation again this year. A portion of each Christmas tree sold directly to the Foundation, when deciding on a tree, please visit Tradition Trees in Oakland at 400 East Lake Drive. Or you can call 404-371-4511 for delivery. We will deliver free of charge.

The East Lake Foundation is nationally known for its integrated approach to community revitalization that focuses on three pillars: create-to-college education, mixed-income housing and community wellness. The Foundation serves the community through a unique organization working closely with its partners within and across these pillars to benefit our youth and their families. To make a donation, call 404-371-4511 or visit eastlakefoundation.org.

Help us reach our Annual Goal

As we celebrate the season of giving, thank you for being a supporter of the East Lake Foundation. Please consider renewing your commitment again this year. The East Lake Foundation was established nearly 25 years ago, but that doesn’t mean our mission is complete. Every year, a new generation of children moves into the empty homes and takes advantage of the programs and opportunities afforded by the Foundation in the East Lake neighborhood and at Charles R. Drew Charter School.

We are close to reaching our goal for 2019 and need your support to ensure the future of our neighborhood and help the East Lake Foundation continue our work and increased opportunities for families of the Village of East Lake and students at Drew Charter School. Please make your gift today using the envelope provided or visit www.eastlakefoundation.org.

Cynthia Kuhlman Named Georgia State Distinguished Alum

On October 4th, the Georgia State University Alumni Association presented the Distinguished Alum Award to Dr. Cynthia Kuhlman. Dr. Kuhlman, an adjunct professor and long-time educator, served as Director of Educational Achievement for the US Department of Education. She also served as executive director of the Georgia Rural Education Foundation and as assistant superintendent of the highest performing schools in Atlanta Public Schools and the State of Georgia.

In honor of Dr. Kuhlman’s long time commitment to education, the students in East Lake, please consider making a donation to the East Lake Foundation in her honor at www.eastlakefoundation.org.

Give the Gift of Giving

Looking for the perfect gift for the person who has everything? We have the PERFECT gift for you! Take a donation to the East Lake Foundation in their honor. The lucky recipient will be notified of your gift and recognized in our 2019 Annual Report.
East Lake Women’s Alliance Grants $25,000 to Drew Charter School’s College and Career Readiness Program

The 2018 East Lake Women’s Alliance has selected to grant their collective membership dues to Drew Charter School’s College and Career Readiness Program. A total of $25,000 will be directed to this state-of-the-art program that is committed to ensuring 100% of Drew’s seniors graduate college-ready and prepared for post-secondary success. Drew’s counseling team provides individualized and comprehensive services to both student and families throughout their four-year experience of Drew. Supportive services are also provided by grade level counselors who address the academic and emotional needs of students.

The East Lake Women’s Alliance (ELWA) is a philanthropic group of Atlanta women who have committed to focusing their time and financial support to the East Lake neighborhood. If you are interested in learning more about the East Lake Women’s Alliance, please contact Ninemae Blanco at jon@eastlakefoundation.org.

Rory McIlroy Wins 2nd TOUR Championship and FedEx Cup

Starting just a few months after Drew Charter School’s Varsity Boys Golf team’s victory, the excitement for the TOUR Championship was palpable in the East Lake neighborhoods.

During tournament week, the Varsity Boys Golf team was provided the opportunity of a lifetime to attend and play alongside their favorite PGA professionals. They also were recognized at the Awards Ceremony Opening Award Ceremony, and on East Coast Aces.

Drew Charter School Sophomore Myles Fisher won the 9th Annual Hope Shot in front of a standing room only crowd. With PGA Commissioner Jay Monahan as his caddie, he struck the ball with amazing force and precision. After four closely contested days and an intense final round with Brooks Koepka on his heels, Rory McIlroy won the TOUR Championship, joining Tiger Woods and Phil Mickelson as the only three men to win the TOUR Championship twice.

The proceeds from his victory will support the East Lake Foundation, Grove Park Foundation, Public Charter Schools Atlanta, The Fire of Love Atlanta, and several other charity partners.

Thanks to the PGA TOUR, the Coca-Cola Company, Sony Computer Entertainment, and East Lake Golf Club, the volunteers and all the fans for making this year’s event such a success.

To find out more about 2020 TOUR Championship sponsorship opportunities or to purchase tickets, contact Martin Stephenson at market@stephenson linea.com.

Wake Forest Women and Texas Women Win 5th Annual East Lake Cup

On October 28, 2019, the Golf Channel, East Lake Cup Club and East Lake Foundation hosted the 5th Annual East Lake Cup. This three-man NCAA collegiate tournament featured the top men’s and women’s golf teams from across the country: Arizona (Women), Duke (University Women), Oklahoma State University (men), University of Texas (men), Vanderbilt University (men) and Wake Forest University (senior Women).

After three days of intense competition, Wake Forest University’s Women’s Golf team and the University of Texas’ Men’s Golf team claimed the 2017 East Lake Cup.

The East Lake Cup also featured the presentation of the Tom Cavan Award, recognizing an outstanding team or golfer who exemplifies the values of the East Lake Foundation. In 2016, Wake Forest University’s Women’s Golf team and Vanderbilt University’s Men’s Golf teams were selected as this year’s winner for their achievements on and off the golf course.

Thanks to our sponsors, EpilepsyBee, Bostic-Bigelow, Gof, Meadors Law, Lober and Cis for their support of the East Lake Cup and the East Lake Foundation.

Drew Charter School’s Legacy Class of 2017 achieved a 100% graduation rate and 100% college acceptance rate, receiving millions of dollars in scholarships offers. While these numbers are impressive, the most impressive is that according to data collected by Atlanta Public Schools (APS), the percent of Drew Charter School’s students who complete high school is second year of college higher than the percentage of all students receiving high school diploma from other APS high schools.

This success would not be possible without the dedication of Drew Charter School’s robust College and Career Readiness Program, supported by the East Lake Foundation. To find out more about how to support Drew Charter School’s CCR program, contact Chad Cox at cccox@drewcharterfoundation.org.

Drew Charter School Welcomes Drew Charter School Intern, Leobardo Espejuelo

The Foundation is excited to welcome Leobardo Espejuelo as our annual Drew Charter School Intern. Leobardo is a junior at Drew Charter School where he is a member of the Advanced Band, Cross Country Team and Beta Club. He is experienced in plumbing, painting and home remodeling. These experiences have proved helpful to him as a set designer with Drew’s Theatre program. Outside of school, he volunteers with Best Friends Animal Adoption Center where he helps care for the animals by walking, feeding and providing general care. Through his internship earning, he is looking forward to joining the Army as a medic. Additionally, he plans to attend Emory University where he hopes to study medicine to become a surgeon.

StartME East Lake is Recruiting Mentors for its Sixth Cohort

January 2020 marked the sixth year of StartME East Lake, a 14-week program that pairs entrepreneurs (teams and individuals) with mentors for training, startup support and financing needed to develop viable and sustainable micro-businesses.

In partnership with Emory University’s Goizueta School of Business, StartME is recruiting an experienced group of professional mentors to provide support for participating micro-entrepreneurs. Mentor training and feedback are available for opportunities to connect entrepreneurs with individuals and partners who will further support their businesses.

If you are interested in becoming a mentor, contact info@startmeatlanta.org.