DePaul Cristo Rey
Built on Loving Relationships

By Margee Garbsch, DPCR director of communications

DePaul Cristo Rey is a high school built on loving relationships. The love and commitment of the Sisters of Charity that led to its opening in 2011 continues to sustain it, while loving relationships with families, businesses and new friends have been critical to DPCR’s growth and success.

The families of DPCR’s first students took a risk enrolling their children in a brand new school. The legacy of the Sisters of Charity and credibility of the Cristo Rey education model were deciding factors for many. Then, as students and families built loving relationships with teachers, staff and professional mentors, they could see success on the horizon.

Many students enter DPCR with academic deficiencies and carry what Principal Andrew Farfsing calls their “invisible backpacks” of significant personal and family issues. The teachers and staff strive to build loving relationships that buoy the students, allowing them to accept or overcome their adversities and embrace their own potential. The strength and support of these loving relationships pushed many in the Class of 2015 to see that high school and college graduation are attainable goals.

Additionally, the students’ and school’s success hinges on relationships with the business and philanthropic communities. All students work and earn part of their own education costs through the Corporate Work Study Program (CWSP). It has taken a network of forward-thinking business leaders and the hands-on, compassionate commitment of supervisors, to make the CWSP successful.

Loving relationships have also been built with generous benefactors, critical to DPCR’s sustainability. The spring Rey of Light Scholarship Benefit raised more than $450,000 – a testament to the love and hope supporters feel for the students.

Now as the first graduates prepare to enter college, most as the first in their families to do so, their loving relationships through DPCR will continue. Counselor Jessica Smith will become DPCR’s college support coordinator, staying connected to the new graduates to help them build new relationships and advocate for themselves at college. While at DPCR, we prepare to welcome our fifth freshman class and build loving relationships with them.
DePaul Cristo Rey’s Rey of Light Scholarship Benefit brought in $450,000 for the school’s scholarship fund amounting to more than $1 million over three years. The benefit, held on April 18, was a sellout with 420 guests in attendance.

DPCR faculty and students have built and are maintaining a vegetable garden throughout the summer located on the campus courtyard facing Central Parkway. A grant from Mayerson High School Service Learning Program helped in purchasing tools and equipment, while H.J. Banken Florist and Greenhouse donated soil, compost, peat moss and plants.

Mount St. Joseph University’s “Jubilee Review” amounted to $233,509 and was held in late April at Music Hall. More than 700 students are assisted from the proceeds of this event. A gracious farewell from faculty, students, board members and Sisters of Charity was held for President Tony Aretz on May 14 at the university.

Dr. Joel Thierstein, formerly the academic vice president, is the interim president while a search committee is beginning the work of selecting a search firm and candidates for the presidency.

The university is excited to receive a $1 million gift from an anonymous donor to be used at the discretion of the board. This year’s graduation saw the first class of Master of Science in Nursing and Doctor of Nursing Practice students receive diplomas.

St. Joseph Home will have a new CEO and president beginning Aug. 1. Vice president of operations, Dan Connors, has been approved by the board of directors and by CBSM to succeed Michael Rench who is retiring.

St. Joseph Home was named a Cincinnati Enquirer Top Workplace for the third year in a row.

Each summer Seton High School offers a variety of summer camps for girls and boys of various ages. The variety includes sports, theater, art, a back-to-school bash and the most popular – Girl Power. This camp, which fills with 100-plus girls every summer, is open to fifth- through seventh-grade girls, and offers activities that focus on faith, service and leadership. In addition, a service project is always intertwined. By week’s end it is apparent that these girls have not only learned more about God’s loving relationship with them, but also how to build up and love others and how to love themselves as well.

The Board for Bayley has initiated a practice of missioning its members in the ministry of caring for the elderly and in following the Setonian tradition as they work for Bayley. The conversion of the Electronic Charting Systems to Point Click Care (PCC) has been completed enhancing communication, accuracy and efficiency in handling medical records, documentation, census and billing.

“Look to eternity with a steady and lifted heart and all, all with Jesus.”

- St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

“Truth and sincerity should ever guard your words.”

- St. Louise de Marillac

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