



February 11, 2015

Dear Friends,

I'm delighted to announce several exciting partnerships that are enabling us to expand and enhance our work across North Carolina and in Baltimore, Maryland:

Grant awarded to expand Teen PEP in North Carolina. [The Duke Endowment](#) has awarded a \$360,000 grant to CSS to expand and strengthen [Teen PEP](#) in North Carolina high schools. This grant will enable CSS to launch Teen PEP in schools serving communities with high teen pregnancy rates and to provide additional support to the active Teen PEP schools across the state.

Based in Charlotte and established in 1924 by industrialist and philanthropist James B. Duke, The Duke Endowment is a private foundation that strengthens communities in North Carolina and South Carolina by nurturing children, promoting health, educating minds and enriching spirits. Since its founding, it has distributed more than \$3 billion in grants. The Endowment shares a name with Duke University and Duke Energy, but all are separate organizations.

Grants awarded to support CSS programs in Baltimore. [Open Society Institute-Baltimore](#) (OSI-Baltimore) has awarded a \$120,000 grant to CSS to deepen our work with Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical Senior High School (MerVo). Over the next two years, [Peer Group Connection \(PGC\)](#) at MerVo will grow to reach all incoming freshmen. In addition, CSS will bring [Achievement Mentoring](#) to the school to provide individual mentoring support from caring adults to 10th and 11th graders at elevated risk of academic failure.

OSI-Baltimore, established in 1998, is the only field office for the Open Society Foundations' U.S. Programs, focusing on a single city and testing the effectiveness of place-based philanthropy strategy on some of the biggest challenges facing Baltimore and other urban centers in the United States.

In addition, [The Charles Crane Family Foundation](#) has once again invested in CSS to help expand PGC in Baltimore. This is the second consecutive year that the foundation has made a \$10,000 grant to support our work in schools across the city.

The Charles Crane Family Foundation, Inc. was formed in 1991 by Charles Crane, a Baltimore County real estate investor. Mr. Crane died in 1994, and since that time the Foundation has continued to support a variety of work in Baltimore and Maryland, including violence prevention programs to benefit Baltimore and Maryland youth.

We are deeply grateful for these generous investments into our efforts to reach more students in high-need communities with evidence-based peer mentoring and peer education.

All the best,



Daniel F. Oscar
CEO

Learn more about our solutions

The Center for Supportive Schools (CSS, formerly Princeton Center for Leadership Training) develops, disseminates, and promotes peer leadership, advisory, and other evidence-based K-12 solutions that enable and inspire schools to more fully engage students in learning, better connect students to their schools, motivate and equip students to make decisions responsibly, and accelerate academic achievement.

CSS has a 35-year history of changing life trajectories for students and effecting cultural transformations within schools. Our work touches tens of thousands of students, educators, and parents annually. We have served nearly 300 schools in New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania, and have operated in 10 other states, Asia, and South America.

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