## **CROSSOVER MISSION**



ATTITUDE · ACADEMICS · ATTENDANCE · ATHLETICS

Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Annual Report



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### **CROSSOVER MISSION:** Game-changing Moments

To the Champions of the Crossover Mission Community,

As we reflect on this past year, our hearts are filled with gratitude and awe at how far we've come—together. 2024 marked the 10-year anniversary of Crossover Mission, a milestone that reminds us not just of our beginnings, but of the incredible community that has made this journey possible.

A decade ago, Crossover Mission was an idea fueled by passion, a belief in the power of mentoring and sports, and a commitment to ensuring that every child—regardless of their circumstances—has the tools and support to reach their full potential. Today, thanks to the dedication of our board of directors, the generosity of our donors, the steadfast commitment of our community partners who fund and fuel our programs, and the selfless mentorship of our volunteers, that idea has become a movement.

This year, we celebrated many extraordinary milestones. We continued renovations on our Center for Excellence, transforming it into a true hub of learning, training, and growth. We expanded our programs, deepened our connections with our alumni, and forged new partnerships that will help sustain and strengthen our impact for years to come. One of the most defining moments of the year was paying off our mortgage and launching our endowment, —what once seemed like a distant dream is now a reality, thanks to the extraordinary generosity of Francesca and Bradley Anderson and others who believe in the mission of Crossover.

At the core of everything we do is the belief that mentoring and sports have the power to change lives. Research proves it: young people with a mentor are 55% more likely to enroll in college, 78% more likely to volunteer in their community, and 130% more likely to hold leadership positions in their careers (*Source: MENTOR: The National Mentoring Partnership*). When combined with the discipline, teamwork, and resilience learned through sports, this becomes a powerful formula for success—not just on the court, but in life.

Whether our student athletes go on to play professional basketball, become doctors, teachers, entrepreneurs, or leaders in their own right, we want them to leave Crossover with the mindset and tools to succeed—wherever their road may lead. Their perseverance, strength, and spirit inspire us daily. They are why we do this work.

Looking ahead, we are filled with hope and excitement. Our mezzanine events, made possible through the dedication of our ambassadors, have introduced new supporters to our mission, and our growing community partnerships continue to strengthen the foundation we have built. But most importantly, our commitment remains steadfast: to serve, to uplift, and to create a future where every child has the opportunity to dream big and achieve even more.

To each one of you—whether you've been with us since the beginning or have recently joined our mission—thank you. Crossover exists because of you, and because of the belief we all share in the limitless potential of our student athletes. The journey continues, and we are grateful to walk this path together. With deepest gratitude,

CWALS-

Catherine De Schouwer Executive Director & Co-Founder

Antoine Jennings Director of Operations & Co-Founder



Antoine Jennings Catherine De Schouwer

### OUR PATH FORWARD: Redefined Programs for Comprehensive Development

At Crossover Mission, we continuously evolve our strategies to meet the diverse needs of our student athletes. Recognizing the multifaceted challenges they face—from academic hurdles to emotional and social needs—we have expanded our approach to provide more targeted support. Our newly refined structure encompasses four core areas, each designed to foster development and success both on and off the court:

# progra



This is the core academic program that includes weekly one-to-one academic mentoring and tutoring, academic interventions with schools and parents, and an enrichment program. Weekly core academics is mandatory for all student athletes ages 11-18. Within the AMP program are the following:

- Daily One-to-One Academic Support and Extended Support
- Academic Support with IEPs
- (as needed) and 504 plans
- College & Career Readiness
- Independent Study

#### HEALTHY KIDS

This is Crossover's comprehensive athletics program with daily fitness and basketball training at its core. It is mandatory and all student athletes ages 11-18 participate during the school year. Healthy programming includes:

- Daily Basketball and Fitness Training
- Daily One-to-One Mentoring
- Healthy Meals, Nutritional
   Education, and Life-Skills Instruction
- Transcendence Girls Program

#### ELITE TRAINING & COMPETITIVE TRAVEL BALL

This is a year-round program that prepares a select cohort of student athletes at Crossover to train and compete at the highest level, with collegiate sports aspirations.



 Year-Round Elite Fitness and Conditioning for College-Bound Student Athletes

Competitive Travel Basketball

#### SUMMER PROGRAM

This is a program that helps realize a community need for structured and affordable summer programming for youth ages 11-18.



Basketball Camps (Florida State University, Indian River State College, Vero Beach High School)
Cultural Excursions

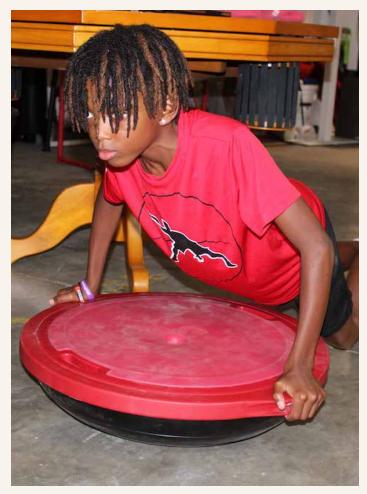
- Daily Basketball Training
- Daily Small-Group Mentoring
- Healthy Lifestyles, Nutritional
- Education, and Life-Skills Instruction

### **ELEVATING OUR GAME IN BASKETBALL TRAINING**

As Crossover Mission embarked on its next decade of growth and impact, our basketball program stood at an exciting crossroads of expansion and enhancement. The installation of our second basketball court, The Ryan Family Court, and the completion of the Darlene W. Ryder Center for Academics & Training (CAT) have enhanced our development programs. These additions were not merely expansions of space but were pivotal in diversifying our training modules and enhancing our capacity to nurture talent at every level.

This past year, our program made significant strides in mirroring the structured, rigorous training environments typical of leading Division 1 colleges. With these facilities, our student athletes experienced a blend of academic rigor, athletic discipline, and character development, which are the cornerstones of our mission. The introduction of multiple coaching stations allowed for simultaneous, specialized training sessions focusing on everything from skill development and team strategy to strength conditioning through state-of-the-art equipment like weight rooms and ball shooting guns.

Our weight room has become essential for our athletes, offering them the tools to build strength and endurance while fostering a spirit of hard work and persistence. It was a place where potential met guidance, and every session pushed them closer to their personal and athletic goals.





Equally transformative is the integration of advanced ball shooting guns, which enhances our practice sessions. These machines not only enhance our athletes' shooting skills through repetitive practice and instant feedback but also inject a level of excitement and professionalism into their training routine. It is this technology-enhanced training that sharpens their skills and prepares them for competitive play.

The addition of our second court scales our program's reach and depth. It affords us the flexibility to segment training sessions, catering to varied age groups and skill levels, thereby maximizing individual attention and tailored coaching. This strategic segmentation not only heightens the efficacy of training but also fosters a stronger sense of team unity and individual accountability among our athletes.

As we set our sights on the future, the foundations we laid during the past year were crucial for the dreams our athletes aspired to. Our student athletes are earning the values of teamwork, discipline, and resilience—lessons that transcend the courts and throughout their lives.

### TAILORED PATHS TO SUCCESS: The Impact and Expansion of Our Independent Study Program



Crossover Mission's Independent Study Program (ISP) has been a transformative initiative, providing an essential educational alternative for students who find traditional school settings challenging due to various personal hurdles. These students often contend with learning disabilities, physical impairments, emotional struggles, and behavioral issues. However, the ISP also caters to those with exceptional talents needing specialized attention to fully realize their potential. Over the past two years, the success of the ISP has underscored the critical need for such personalized educational approaches. Looking ahead, our objective is ambitious yet vital: to expand our reach, hoping to support up to 25 students by the 2025-26 academic year, ensuring that more young individuals have the tools and opportunities to succeed on their unique educational paths.

The ISP is more than an academic program; it is a nurturing environment that addresses the holistic needs of its students. Managed by Charles Olsson, an educator with nearly three decades of experience, the program provides

tailored educational plans that go beyond conventional curricula. Our educational philosophy is built around the understanding that each student deserves individual attention that caters to their specific needs, whether it's navigating social dynamics, mastering academic content, or managing emotional and behavioral challenges. This approach fosters academic excellence while building self-esteem and personal resilience, which are crucial for long-term success.

As we continue to build and refine the ISP, our focus remains steadfast on inclusivity and individual growth. The program's enrichment activities, such as field trips and volunteering at a local soup kitchen, play a crucial role in developing well-rounded individuals. These activities are designed to instill a love of learning, enhance social skills, and provide students with experiences that build character and cultural awareness. Looking forward, the planned expansion of the ISP will increase our capacity to serve more students and enhance our program offerings, ensuring that each student has the support and opportunities needed to thrive.



### **COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS:** Empowering Futures

Our College and Career Readiness Department provides essential guidance and support for our student athletes throughout the school year, continually proving its importance in preparing our youth for college and career success. With dedicated efforts from our staff, particularly our full-time College & Career Readiness Counselor Diane Bainter, we have significantly enhanced the way our students explore and prepare for their college and career futures. Students engaged in personalized meetings and took part in assessments of their personalities and learning strategies, which helped them uncover potential career paths that align with their unique strengths and interests.



### Key highlights of the year included:

- Participation in the Indian River County College and Career Fair, where students interacted with representatives from over 50 colleges and branches of the military.
- A memorable tour of the University of North Florida, where students experienced college life firsthand and attended a Division 1 basketball game.
- Recognition of two graduating seniors from St. Edward's School, who were accepted into the University of North Florida, celebrated at our end-of-year ceremony.

Our program assists students in navigating the college application process and empowers their families with crucial knowledge about financial aid and college financing. This comprehensive support system includes:

- Workshops and individual sessions on financial aid applications and scholarship opportunities.
- Guidance on managing finances and understanding the economic responsibilities of higher education.

We continue to support our alumni in their post-secondary education and career endeavors. The establishment of the inaugural Crossover Academic Scholarship, awarding seven students and alumni with a \$5,000 annual scholarship, marks a significant milestone in our commitment to fostering long-term success.



The continued support from our funders has been instrumental in expanding these initiatives, enabling us to prepare our student athletes for a future filled with opportunities. Special thanks to Wanda Lincoln, The Cronin Foundation, Fry Family Foundation, Steve & Julie Williams, and Cornelia T. Bailey Foundation.

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### ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES: Discovering and Harnessing Individual "Sparks"

Crossover Mission places a high value on enrichment activities that make learning enjoyable and interactive while providing a variety of experiences that cater to the individual strengths and interests of our student athletes. This year, we focused part of our Life Enrichment Series on an initiative geared toward helping our students discover their "sparks" as defined by Dr. Peter Benson in his influential work with the Search Institute. "Sparks" are those unique qualities that ignite passion and joy in individuals, acting as an anchor that keeps them connected and engaged with life.

During our "Discover Your SPARK" sessions, staff members facilitated thought-provoking discussions designed to help students identify and articulate these deep-seated passions. These discussions were based on a series of guided questions that encouraged students to reflect on what truly motivates and excites them. The activity culminated in students writing about their discovered sparks, and some bravely shared their insights aloud with the group, fostering a supportive community atmosphere.





### APPLYING POWER TOOLS: Optimism and Resilience

Further enriching our curriculum, we re-introduced students to our "power tools"—key concepts in personal development that are vital for coping with life's challenges and building a successful future. In March, we explored the power tool of Optimism. Students engaged with the concept through interactive readings and discussions about how a positive outlook can shape one's experiences and outcomes. They applied these principles in a practical setting during a teamwork-based Jenga game, which served to reinforce the message that with focus and effort, they can achieve the futures they envision for themselves.

April focused on the power tool of Resilience. Acknowledging that problems are temporary and changeable helped frame our discussions and activities. This session emphasized the importance of resilience in overcoming obstacles and maintaining a positive trajectory despite setbacks.

These enrichment activities are essential components of our program, providing students with the tools and mindset to navigate their paths confidently. By engaging in these thoughtful exercises, our student athletes not only learn about themselves but also how to apply these insights

### **CROSSOVER STUDENT ATHLETES AT THE NBA™**

In 2024, our highly motivated Crossover Mission student athletes were afforded a remarkable opportunity to attend an NBA<sup>™</sup>game between the Orlando Magic and the San Antonio Spurs. This event included round-trip transportation, access to a private suite at the Orlando Magic's Amway Center, and a catered selection of food and drinks. For many student athletes, it was their first experience visiting downtown Orlando, attending an NBA game, and enjoying the excitement of a professional sports arena from such an exclusive vantage point.

The students selected to participate were those who exemplified outstanding Attitude, Attendance, Athletics, and Academics. This event was a powerful demonstration of the rewards that come from hard work and dedication. It also provided a unique opportunity for student athletes to bond with each other and staff outside their usual environment.

We are thankful to Dick DeVos, owner of the Orlando Magic, and Brian Hill, a former Magic head coach, who are both supporters of Crossover Mission. Their local ties and support made it possible for our students to witness the pre-game warm-ups, providing them with a unique and inspiring glimpse into the world of professional sports.

Special thanks to the Woods Trust for making this memorable experience possible.









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### 2023-2024 TRAVEL BALL SEASON REVIEW

Crossover's Travel Ball program experienced a season filled with growth, challenge, and achievement. Our 8th Grade Crossover Queens exemplified the spirit of competition and camaraderie, finishing an impressive season with a record of 14 wins and 6 losses, ranking 2nd out of 35 teams in the McGhee Exposure Events. This success was highlighted by two championships and reaching the championship round in four out of six tournaments. The resilience and skill displayed by our teams, especially in moments such as a heart-stopping one-point loss in double overtime, have not only tested their abilities but also fostered a deep sense of team unity and personal development.







Participating in competitive play has offered our student athletes the chance to build closer relationships with their peers, foster a sense of belonging, and gain valuable exposure to new challenges and opportunities. These experiences are crucial in shaping young athletes' perspectives, teaching them the importance of teamwork, respect, and perseverance.

However, the journey was not without its hurdles. Our young athletes faced numerous challenges, from maintaining sportsmanship in the face of adversity to overcoming personal and team setbacks. The culture of respect, hard work, and kindness that we strive to instill in our athletes has been crucial in navigating these challenges. Our staff continues to emphasize that character development is just as important as skill development, ensuring our athletes grow not only as players but as individuals.

Looking ahead, we are filled with excitement for the upcoming season. Building on the solid foundation from this year, we anticipate even greater achievements and learning experiences for our teams.



### EMPOWERING OUR ATHLETES THROUGH DIVERSE EXPERIENCES: SUMMER SURGE



During the summer, Crossover Mission provided a series of enriching experiences aimed at both personal and athletic development of our student athletes. Our comprehensive programming included innovative approaches such as the Camper Draft, essential life skills workshops, and a variety of field trips to places like Skate Factory, Vero Bowl, Lion Country Safari, Urban Air, Maximum Velocity Gymnastics, The Environmental Learning Center, and a fine dining experience. During the basketball program, we introduced a mock-style draft, where 30 student athletes were selected each week based on a broad set of criteria including basketball skills, teamwork, leadership, and even their engagement in chores and social media. This motivational tool helped foster a competitive spirit and a drive for personal excellence among the participants.

The preparation for draft day was thorough; it involved practicing public speaking, writing speeches and thank you letters, and mastering personal presentation. These activities culminated in a draft day event where the students, dressed in their best, delivered speeches that demonstrated their growth and gratitude.

In addition to basketball, the summer included a unique cross-training opportunity. Our students traded places with campers from Maximum Velocity Gymnastics for a day. This experience was invaluable as they were taught various gymnastics disciplines which are excellent for enhancing core strength, flexibility, and overall athletic agility—skills that are beneficial on the basketball court.

The fine dining experience was a special event where our student athletes, dressed in their best, were taken out to a restaurant. For many, this was a new and exciting experience that offered a fun environment to learn and engage. They picked up proper table etiquette, learned how to read a menu, and practiced the art of conversation over a meal. The goal was to enhance their confidence and social skills, preparing them to handle a variety of public settings with ease and grace, while also providing an opportunity for staff and students to bond.

As the summer concluded, we recognized and selected students who exemplified the four A's—Athletics, Academics, Attitude, and Attendance—for leadership roles in the upcoming year. Highlights included the Transcendence Girls and Boys Leadership retreats at the Vero Beach Equestrian Club, where students engaged in a variety of activities from horseback riding to cooking lessons focused on healthy eating, complemented by discussions on mental health led by experts.

Special thanks to those who support of our summer program and their commitment to fostering growth, learning, and well-being in our community.



### **2024 FISCAL YEAR-END OUTCOMES** Student Athletes Academic Achievements

100% graduation rates for 5th consecutive year

99% remained free of the juvenile justice system

100% enrolled in school either in a traditional or virtual option

73% improved their grades in Math and Science

77% improved their grades in English/ Language Arts



### **Athletic Success**

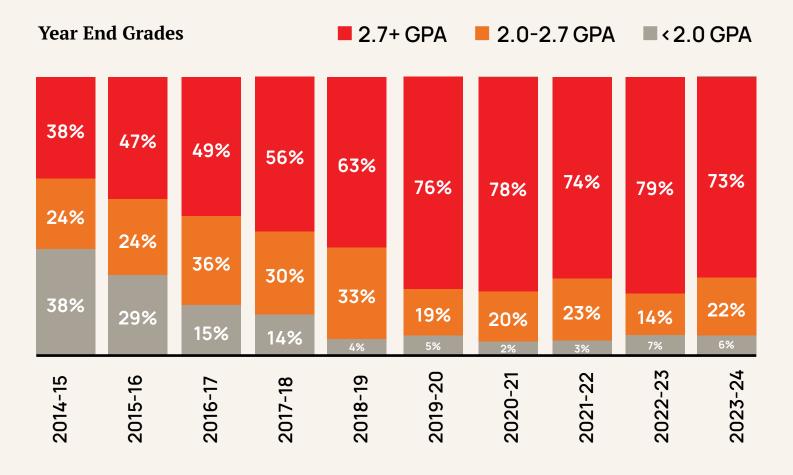
96% student athletes were eligible to try out for their school basketball teams

69% earned roster spots on their school teams

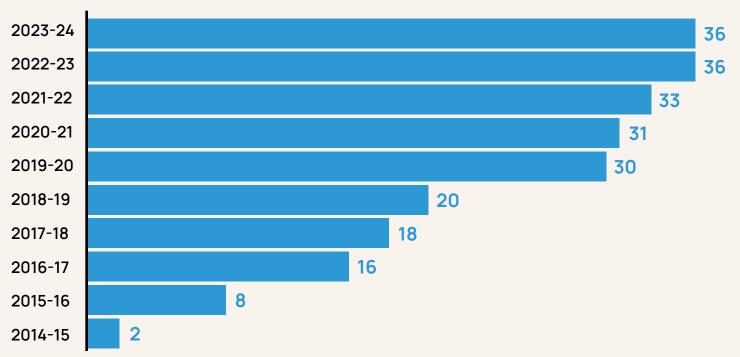
24% maintained or improved their Body Mass Index (BMI)

### **OUTCOMES SCOREBOARD**



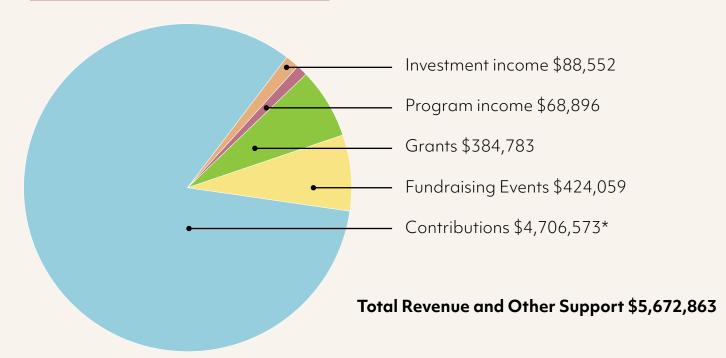


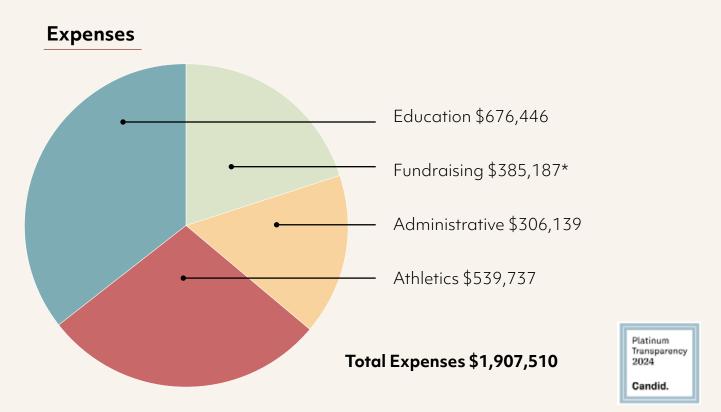
#### **School Basketball Team Participation**



#### FINANCIAL OVERVIEW - FISCAL YEAR 2024 (Sept. 1, 2023 - Aug. 31, 2024)

### **Public Support and Revenues**





\*Figures include Capital Campaign activity.

#### Assets

	<b>Current Assets:</b> Cash and cash equivalents Grant receivable Pledges receivable (net) - current portion Other current assets	\$2,438,494 \$20,817 \$764,000 \$71,390
	Total Current Assets	\$3,294,701
	<b>Other Assets:</b> Pledges receivable (net) - non-current portion Property and equipment, net	\$5,000 \$6,395,138
	Total Other Assets	\$6,400,138
	Total Assets	\$9,694,839
Liabilities and Net Assets	<b>Current Liabilities:</b> Accounts payable and accrued liabilities Accrued payroll liabilities Current portion, long-term debt	\$302,332 \$76,848 \$0
	Total Current Liabilities	\$379,180
	Long-term debt, net of current portion	\$0
	Total Liabilities	\$379,180
	Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions Net Assets With Donor Restrictions	\$7,431,329 \$1,884,330
	Total Net Assets	\$9,315,659

Revenue and Expense designations are taken from the Fiscal Year 2024 Audit Report. Please contact Executive Director Catherine De Schouwer at 772.257.5400 with any questions.

### **CROSSOVER MISSION FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 DONORS**

We are deeply grateful for every contribution, no matter the size, as each gift plays a vital role in supporting our student athletes. While space in our annual report is limited and we are unable to list every donor, please know that your support makes a meaningful impact on our mission.

#### \$250,000 and above

Bradley and Francesca Anderson Anonymous Anonymous Anonymous

#### \$100,000 - \$249,999

Children's Services Advisory Committee Rosemary Haverland Wanda Lincoln Ryan Memorial Foundation Schooner Foundation Michael and Sue White

#### \$50,000 - \$99,999

The Berghorst Foundation The Blair Family Foundation John's Island Foundation Bradley Lorimier Robert and Gail Parsons Bruce and Bonnie Sawyer United Way of Indian River County Steve and Julie Williams

#### \$25,000 - \$49,999

Anonymous Edward and Sherry Ann Dayton James and Diane Francis Fry Family Foundation Grand Harbor Community Outreach Program Bruce andSandy Hammonds Indian River Community Foundation Indian River Impact 100 John's Island Community Service League Edward and Dawn Michael William Oglesby Thomas and Ann Piper III Ron Woods Charitable Trust

#### \$10,000 - \$24,999

Anonymous Anonymous

Bernard A. Egan Foundation Cornelia T. Bailey Foundation James and Diana Cronin William Eckerd Charlene Friedman Head Heart and Hands of Indian River Club Indian River County Hospital District James R. Stein Architect, PLLC Frances Kirkpatrick Nicholas B. Ottaway Foundation Quail Valley Charities, Inc. Michael and Melisse Reardon William F. Ryan and Joan T. Richtsmeier Thomas and Darlene Ryder Kenneth and Pixley Schiciano Syde Hurdus Foundation Wheels and Keels Foundation Inc

#### \$5,000 - \$9,999

Anonymous Anonymous Michael and Patti Barton **Camp Younts Foundation** John and Maryellen Conefry **Croom Construction** Robert and Christine Di Scipio Veronica Dowling Kip and Mary Jacoby John's Island Real Estate Company Jeffrey Johnson Jay and Linda Knoll Rick and Anita Leggott Richard and Laura Maier Mardy Fish Children's Foundation S. Brooke Megrue Brian and Deborah Murdock Benagh Newsome **Richard and Cindy Nicolaides** Thomas Otteson James and Mary Penrose **PNF** Architecture Proctor Construction

#### Robert and Anne Quinn Donald Riefler Rohrbach Family Foundation Gavin Ruotolo Patrick and Ellyn Shook Anna Bain Slater William and Lisa Slater Douglas T. and Dhuanne S. Tansill Foundation Vantage In Philanthropy Inc. Gary and Beverly Zell

#### \$2,500 - \$4,999

Anonymous Anonymous Trust Richard and Linda Bradley Anthony and Lisa Britton Citrus Grillhouse Conrado Enterprises of Indian River County Inc Gene and Jean Cravens George E Warren LLC William and Diantha Harris Harry Webster Walker II Charitable Trust Michael and Nancy Herling Holloway Family Foundation Kealy Family Foundation James and Linda Landers Elizabeth Livers Ronald and Constance McGlynn Minotty Family Foundation Kenneth Morgan Mark and Patricia Mulvoy Thomas and Jill Netzel Marion and Susan Oglesby Joan Ohl Kevin and Christine Osborn **Brian Patterson** Charles and Sandra Robinson The Rotary Club of Vero Beach Frank and Elizabeth Schroeder Bradford and Shawn Smith Carl and Priscilla Temme Murphy and Nan Vandervelde

#### Crossover Mission MVPs Corporate & Foundation Partners







OMMUNITY









#### Russell and Marcy Wilson

#### \$500 - \$2,499

Anonymous George and Louise Alcock William and Kate Antle Apache Construction of Indian River, Inc. Archie S. Wingfield, Jr. Charitable Trust Stephen and Lucia Bailey Edward Baldini Bruce and Elaine Barkus Steven and Jackie Bell Pierre and Linda Bichsel Andrew and Helen Bowler The Brackett Family Foundation Martin and Isabel Brophy Jeannette Brophy Brian Burkart and Sue Powell David and Sarah Campbell Julie Clinger Dave Cody Stephen and Jane Coley Henry and Marjorie Collins James and Linda Connolly II William and Michele Cooney Peter and Karen Coveney Brian Cranney Harry and Nancy Curtis Dale Sorensen Real Estate Inc George Davala Gary and Donna Davis Scott and Karen Davis Richard and Marcy DeWolfe Dale Dutile Donald and Sarah Dussing Emanuel Family Charitable Fund John Ericson, Jr. Timothy Essaye Kathryn Faber Todd and Kathy Fennell Dennis and Ellen Ferro Florida Power & Light Company Gregory and Jalene Floyd Terry and Linda Fox Robert and Victoria Freeman Frederick and Laurie Gaertner Anthony Gambee Gerald and Claudette Giacomino

Alan Goldie and Denyse Alexander Evelyn Goodhue William and Anne Grealis Herbert and Anne Gullquist H & J IRCF Fund Roger and Kendra Haines Ann Hamner Michael Harrell Craia and Susan Hoelzer Ray and Suzanne Hurst Paul and Lynn Ingrassia Dale and Betty Jacobs Elizabeth Jacobsen Christopher and Cheryl Johns Thomas and Karen Keating Keith Baker Construction John Kemp James and Penelope King Michael and Victoria Krajnyk David Kreisberg Philip and Stephanie Lambert Jack and Cynthia LaMothe Stephen Lau Robert and Janet Leger Trent and Rachel Leyda Claude and Joanne Limoges Susan Locke Phillip Long Charles and Mary Lyon Alice Manning James McAndrews Rick and Maryellen McCarthy John and Marie McConnell Richard McMenamin Jerry and Susan Melton Robert and Cathy Miller Bernard and Rita Murphy Michael and Karen Murphy Velayudhan and Bharathy Nair Leah Nelson Gail Beveridge Norris Northern Trust Kathleen Oryell Rod and Julie Parker Richard and Joanie Paulsen John and Fatima Penrose Judy Peschio Gerald Pierone and Nancy Cho

William and Laura Pietersen Pro Citrus Network, Inc. George Reynolds Robert and Karen Ritter Ronald and Nancy Rosner John and Mary Ann Rowinski Matthew and Becki Rundels Katharine Sanford Rosa Scarcelli School District of Indian River County Sihle Insurance Group of Vero Blair Smith Jaime Smith John and Stephanie Smith David and Krista Stephens Randy and Kate Thornton Three Forks Ranch Tom Tierney and Lisa Kahle James and Mary Anne Tormey Edward and Bobbie Trippe Walmart Facility The WAWA Foundation Alan Wiegand and Marcia Holland James and Mary Weiss Roger and Judith Widmann Mark and Ruth Wood Kristen Yoshitani Allen and Judith Zern

#### HONORARIUMS

In honor of Isabel Ernst from William Eckerd

In honor of Tom Piper from Kristen Gengaro

#### MEMORIALS

In memory of "BT" Bidensky Termidor from Anonymous

In memory of Mike Kelly from Vince & Barbara DeTurris

In memory of Richard Haverland from Rosemary Haverland



Nicholas B. Ottaway Foundation













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### CROSSOVER MISSION ALL-STARS Powered By You

We are proud to highlight the successful launch of the Crossover Mission All-Star Major Donor Program during the 2023-2024 year, a prestigious initiative that recognizes and unites a select group of leadership donors committed to driving our mission forward. Inspired by the celebrated All-Star annual exhibition of top-ranked basketball players, our Crossover Mission All-Stars are a distinguished team whose generous annual contributions of \$5,000 or more are crucial in sustaining the high performance of our organization.

This elite program plays a pivotal role in funding our rigorous and impactful initiatives, ensuring that we can continue to deliver comprehensive support and developmental opportunities to our student athletes.



Members of the All-Stars program enjoy special benefits that acknowledge their significant role in our community. These benefits include:

- Recognition as an All-Star on the digital donor board at our main court, on Crossover Mission's website, annual report, and all All-Star-related listings.
- An exclusive invitation to the annual All-Star Mezzanine Reception at Crossover's Center for Excellence, providing a unique opportunity to engage with other leaders and stakeholders.

As we continue our journey into the next decade, we invite you to become a Crossover Mission All-Star, connecting with a community dedicated to making a lasting impact.

### **STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY TIES**

Each day presents a new opportunity to forge meaningful connections and provide our student athletes and their families with essential resources. The challenges our students face—ranging from homelessness and poverty to limited access to healthcare and food insecurity—require solutions. We are deeply committed to supporting families in meeting these needs and enhancing their capacity to manage and overcome challenges.

We are grateful for the collaboration with key local organizations that are equally dedicated to serving historically underserved populations. These partnerships enrich our programs and extend our reach into the community, amplifying our impact.



We extend our heartfelt thanks to these and all other partners who contribute to the vitality of our programs and the success of our students.



### A SALUTE TO OUR MENTORS 2023-24 school year



### 91 Total

2,941 Reported Hours

\$92,965 Value

(according to the Independent Sector 2023 Report)

Throughout the past year, our mentors have been integral to the success of Crossover Mission. Their dedication has enriched our programs, providing both guidance and inspiration to our young athletes. The value of their time, measured not just in hours but in the lasting impact on the lives they touch, reflects a deep commitment to empowering our student athletes.

We are profoundly grateful to each mentor for their generous support and the significant difference they make. Their contributions continue to inspire and transform lives, merging the power of sport with educational growth.

"After ten years of being a mentor, I am still driven to help more boys and girls. I am especially inspired to see the continued deepening of the integration of academics into Crossover's program. I sure love the ideals of what Crossover is all about" - Jalene Floyd, Crossover Mission Mentor (since 2014)





"Volunteering at Crossover keeps me active and strengthens my brain cells. It is very compelling to know that yes, I do make a difference." - Holly Wilson, Crossover Mission Mentor

### HOME COURT ADVANTAGE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN: Transforming Lives Through a Permanent Home

In a few short years, the vision of a permanent home for Crossover Mission has become a reality—one made possible by the generosity and belief of our community. Thanks to the support of more than 100 donors, we have raised nearly \$9 million to develop the Crossover Center for Excellence, a space designed to uplift and empower the young people we serve.

What was once a former citrus packing facility is now a thriving hub of learning, mentorship, and athletic development. This transformation was made possible through a shared commitment to our mission, led by Robert Parsons, Board Vice Chair, who has guided the redevelopment of this facility with exceptional dedication. Today, this space is a second home for our student athletes, where they are nurtured academically, challenged athletically, and supported in their journey toward success.



#### A Space That Changes Lives

The impact of the Crossover Center for Excellence is felt every day. For our student athletes, it means having access to:

- Jennings & DeSchouwer Center for Excellence
- Brad Lorimer Robert Parsons Basketball Court and Ryan Memorial Fund Basketball Court, two high-quality basketball courts, where they develop skills, build confidence, and learn the value of teamwork
- Darlene W. Ryder Center for Academics & Training (CAT), a space where mentorship and academic support prepare them for their future
- Blair Family Multisport Athletic Training Center, giving them the tools to build strength, resilience, and discipline
- Ted & Dawn Michael and Rosemary & Dick Haverland Mezzanine - A space, providing a place for study, and connection with mentors
- A dedicated dining area, ensuring that every student athlete has access to nourishing meals (sponsored by an Anonymous Donor)



This facility is an investment in the future of young people in our community. It represents stability, opportunity, and the promise that every student athlete who walks through our doors has the chance to reach their full potential.

#### A Debt-Free Future and Growing Opportunities

In May 2024, Francesca and Bradley Anderson made a transformational \$2 million gift, allowing Crossover Mission to retire its mortgage and become debt-free. This momentous contribution not only secures our financial stability but also establishes our first permanent endowment, ensuring that our mission will continue for generations to come.

#### The Work Ahead: 2025 Funding Priorities

While we celebrate these accomplishments, there is still work to be done to fully realize the vision for the Crossover Center for Excellence and expand our impact. Our next phase of growth includes:

- \$375,000 to complete building interior improvements, including:
- \$1.5 million South Property Improvement project, enhancing outdoor space and infrastructure, with donor recognition on permanent exterior signage.
- \$240,000 toward a \$960,000 5-year plan Crossover Mission Scholarship Fund, ensuring that more than 25 student-athletes can access higher education or trade certification programs, with scholarships awarded in donors' names.
- \$4.5 million toward a \$5 million Permanent Endowment, securing Crossover Mission's long-term sustainability through:
  - General Endowment Fund (\$200,000 raised toward \$3.5 million goal)
  - Antoine Jennings Elite Training Fund (\$250,000 raised toward \$500,000 goal)
  - Penrose Family Executive Leadership Fund (\$100,000 raised toward \$500,000 goal)



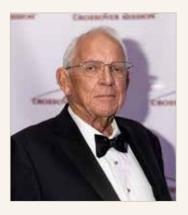
AS WE LOOK AHEAD, WE INVITE THOSE WHO SHARE OUR COMMITMENT TO EDUCATION, MENTORSHIP, AND ATHLETIC EXCELLENCE TO JOIN US IN COMPLETING THIS TRANSFORMATIVE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN.

For more information, contact Capital Campaign Manager David Guertin at dguertin@crossovermission.com or 401.868.0365.

### **CROSSOVER MISSION Board of Directors** Fiscal Year 2023 - 2024

Our heartfelt thanks also go to our Board members for their invaluable role in expanding our reach. By inviting their friends and networks to support Crossover, they have significantly enhanced our community impact and helped us achieve key goals this past year.

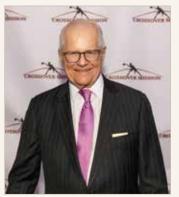
Their efforts have empowered our student athletes and strengthened our programs, driving us forward with renewed purpose and resolve.



Brad Lorimier Chairman



Bob Parsons Vice Chair



Thomas Piper III Treasurer



Jeremy Odom Secretary



Robert Di Scipio



**Bruce Hammonds** 



Mary Buff Penrose



Rev. Gregory Pitts, Sr.



Michael Reardon



**Patrick Shook** 



Lisa Slater



**Milo Thornton** 

# POWER PLEDGE

I am a **powerful person**. I will use my power for **good**. CROSSOVER!

I have GRIT. When things get hard I work harder.

I have OPTIMISM. With focus and effort, I can have the future I am willing to work for.

I have **RESILIENCE**. Problems are **temporary** and **changeable**. I have **SELF-CONTROL**. I come **prepared**, ignore **distractions**, and do not **waste** time.

I have GRATITUDE. I appreciate the opportunities and the **people** who support me.

I have SOCIAL INTELLIGENCE. I uplift and support those around me.

I have CURIOSITY. The more I learn, the smarter I become. I have TRAINING SPIRIT. My enthusiasm can change the world.

I am a powerful person. I will use my power for good!

### Staff

**Catherine De Schouwer** Co-Founder & Executive Director Antoine Jennings Co-Founder, Director of Operations, & Head Coach

**Diane Bainter** College & Career Readiness Counselor

**Pradel Bonnet** Asst. Basketball & Success Coach

Almando Cyrius Asst. Basketball & Success Coach

Barbara Fair Transportation

AJ Jennings Asst. Basketball Coach & Success Coach **Hollie Lintz** Bookkeeper

Samantha Motzinger Math Tutor

**Charles Olsson** Independent Study Program Manager

**Beth Ratliff** Academic Program Manager & Volunteer Coordinator Viola Rhyant Transportation

**Triana Romero** Director of Development

**Kim Russell** Executive Administrator

**Stephanie Thompson** Program Director

David Vaina Grants & Outcomes Manager



### A NIGHT TO REMEMBER Celebrating a Decade

Thank you to all who joined us at "Our House," Crossover Mission's 40,000 sq. ft. Center for Excellence for our 10th Anniversary Gala (December 2024). This memorable evening celebrated not just a decade of transformative achievements, but also marked a significant stride toward our future goals, setting the stage for the next generation of student athletes to thrive and succeed.

We are immensely grateful to the Gala Committee, our Board of Directors, sponsors, and every guest whose presence and generosity illuminated the night. Special thanks to our Gala Committee members—*Mary Buff Penrose, Kevin Osborn, Allison Ritter, Pat Shook, Anna Bain Slater, and Lisa Slater*—for their tireless efforts in organizing this milestone event. We also extend a heartfelt thank you to Mary Buff Penrose, whose boundless energy and dedication have attracted countless supporters to our cause. In recognition of her transformative impact, we were honored to present her with the inaugural Crossover Mission SPARK Award. This award is given to individuals whose passion and creativity spark extraordinary change, mirroring the transformative journeys at the core of our mission. Mary Buff Penrose has truly lit the path for others, inspiring us all. Additionally, the evening was further highlighted by the announcement of a generous challenge grant from the Penrose Family, prompted by their commitment. This grant promises to greatly enhance our facilities and programs, marking another incredible highlight of the evening.

The gala evening commenced outdoors, where guests were greeted by our student athletes and alumni, offering a unique opportunity for supporters to meet the young individuals who benefit directly from their generosity. The charm and humor of Louis DeSchouwer and AJ Jennings, sons of our co-founders Antoine Jennings and Cathy DeSchouwer, set a delightful tone as they briefly recounted the origins and ten years of growth at Crossover Mission. Their stories shared with guests paved the way for an engaging evening.





Following this warm welcome, the Crossover Dribble Team dazzled the crowd with their precise skills and coordination, a testament to the progress and success that your support helps foster among our over 100 student athletes. The performances set the stage for the student speeches that followed, where young speakers demonstrated courage, honesty, and leadership, sharing their transformative experiences with the mission.



Thanks to the INCREDIBLE generosity of everyone involved, the gala raised over \$500,000, directly supporting our programs and ensuring that we continue to empower and uplift the young athletes we serve.

### We are deeply grateful for the continued support that makes nights like these possible and transformative for everyone involved.

(2024 Gala Supporters will be recognized in the 2024-2025 Annual Report.)



Join us again for another memorable evening as we continue to celebrate and support the extraordinary potential of our highly motivated student athletes!

To become a sponsor or for more information, please contact info@crossovermission.com or call 772.257.5400.

### INAUGURAL SPARK AWARD: Honoring Mary Buff Penrose



#### WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO GET INVOLVED WITH CROSSOVER MISSION, AND WHAT ABOUT ITS VISION RESONATED WITH YOU?

I first heard about Crossover Mission around 2015 through the John's Island Community Service League. At the time, I was Vice Chair of the JICSL and was just learning about life in Vero outside of the gated communities. The concept of using sports to reach kids in need struck a chord with me – particularly since it was paired with one-on-one academic tutoring.

This approach reminded me of my volunteer experiences in New York City with Street Squash, so I readily understood how powerful this approach could be. Interestingly, around the same time, my oldest daughter was getting married, and we were feeling very blessed. It felt like a good time to reach out as a family to support a meaningful cause. So, we attended a scrimmage at Gifford Middle School, where we saw how Antoine coached the kids; and how Cathy interreacted with the kids and with the parents. We all were extremely moved with what we saw and heard, leading to our initial involvement.

Fast forward to 2019, a pivotal year in America, I had just left two Boards and was looking for an organization with which I might get involved. I reached out to Cathy, learned about the progress and challenges over the past few years, and felt it was something I could contribute to and learn from. YOU'VE BEEN A DRIVING FORCE BEHIND THE SUCCESS OF THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN. CAN YOU SHARE WHAT THAT JOURNEY HAS MEANT TO YOU AND HOW IT HAS IMPACTED THE ORGANI-ZATION?

The journey has meant a lot to me. I have a strong belief in bearing witness to things, and being around Cathy and Antoine, you're witnessing something unique and special. That's what the journey has been about for me—bearing witness to people doing very unusual things in a challenging environment and learning from it. They're both so open, committed, and respectful of the individuals they work with and one another. The other incredibly gratifying part is when I share with donors -- the stories of Crossover's efforts with these kids by our two leaders -- the donors are also moved emotionally and motivated to help. This "Crossover" and circle of care has helped the organization grow.

#### THE CROSSOVER MISSION SPARK AWARD IS A TESTAMENT TO YOUR DEDICATION AND PAS-SION. WHAT DOES THIS RECOGNITION MEAN TO YOU PERSONALLY, AND HOW DO YOU SEE IT ENCOURAGING OTHERS?

I'm honored by the recognition, especially considering who it comes from—Cathy, Antoine, the entire organization, and the donors who've joined me. It's very humbling. Just this morning, I received a note from someone who feels touched to even know about this journey. Brad Anderson, who helped inspire this award, once called me a "Firestarter," a term used to describe people who create change within an organization. I researched it and was honored to be thought of in that way. CROSSOVER MISSION IS ABOUT SO MUCH MORE THAN BASKETBALL. FROM YOUR PERSPECTIVE, HOW DOES THE ORGANIZATION HELP SHAPE THE LIVES OF THESE YOUNG STUDENT ATH-LETES BEYOND THE COURT?

That's such an important aspect of what we do. When I talk to people about Crossover, I emphasize how we help young people develop a sense of self-worth, which is echoed in our pledge. One of my favorite things is watching the kids do wind sprints up and down the gym, shouting the pledge. Initially, they are just words to them, but by the time they graduate, they understand the importance of those words.

#### YOUR ENTHUSIASM AND CREATIVITY HAVE IN-TRODUCED COUNTLESS COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO CROSSOVER. WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE SPARKS THE MOST INTEREST AND SUPPORT WHEN PEO-PLE FIRST LEARN ABOUT THE MISSION?

I think storytelling is key, and I tailor my approach based on the individual's experiences. For someone with a background in Catholic Youth Basketball Programs, the concept clicks one way; for someone with extensive mentoring or volunteering experience, it resonates differently. But the fact that there's so much congruence at Crossover goes back to the values we uphold. Whether it's team-building activities on the court, building a float for the Christmas parade, or participating in various community events, there are many ways that children bond with one another and with adults. That's the mission of Crossover—to teach and demonstrate these values.

#### LOOKING BACK AT THE PAST TEN YEARS, WHAT DO YOU THINK HAS BEEN THE KEY TO CROSS-OVER MISSION'S GROWTH AND SUCCESS, AND WHAT ROLE DO YOU HOPE IT WILL PLAY IN THE NEXT DECADE?

It's unusual in today's world to see such effective collaboration among people of all backgrounds. One of the great successes over the last ten years has been working fundamentally with the school district. The relationships that Cathy and Antoine have forged have been groundbreaking. The Vero Beach school district now calls on Antoine for advice and provides us with full access to teachers and students' academic records.



We work together as a village, collaborating with feeding programs, shelters, and many other organizations. This ability to collaborate is something we excel at and is vital in a community where it is encouraged.

#### THE SPARK AWARD SYMBOLIZES THE QUALITIES THAT LIGHT THE PATH FORWARD FOR CROSS-OVER'S STUDENTS. HOW DO YOU HOPE THE AWARD WILL INSPIRE FUTURE RECIPIENTS TO CONTINUE CREATING POSITIVE CHANGE?

Supporting the SPARK Award is incredibly important to acknowledge and support the people who work in the nonprofit arena—coaches, teachers, admin staff —who are driven by a higher purpose. I hope the award will be an opportunity to recognize all the volunteers, staff members, and others who find meaning in this work and make a difference.



4425 US Highway 1, Vero Beach, FL 32967 | 772.257.5400 | crossovermission.com

