

THE JOSEPH FUND

OF CAMDEN

Empowering Camden's youth through education.



2025 IMPACT REPORT

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Letter from Our Chair

As I reflect on 2025, I'm filled with gratitude and hope. Because of your generosity, The Joseph Fund has continued to transform hundreds of lives of children and families in Camden.

Your support helps scholars at every stage of their educational journey—whether attending Camden's parochial elementary schools, Camden Catholic High School, Gloucester Catholic High School, or Lincoln Tech. Each scholarship is more than financial aid—it is a message to a child that someone believes in them, that their dreams matter, and that they are not alone.

Your generosity also touches our youngest learners. Through the Summer Enrichment Program at the Child Development Center, children enjoy six weeks of free daycare, giving parents peace of mind and stability while their children learn, play, and grow in a safe, nurturing environment.

One of the year's proudest accomplishments was partnering with Catholic Partnership Schools to establish the \$1,000,000 Monsignor Robert McDermott Education Fund. With equal contributions from The Joseph Fund and CPS, this endowment provides lasting tuition and scholarship support for students attending Camden's four parochial elementary schools, honoring Father Bob's lifelong belief that a quality, faith-based education can change not just a child's life, but an entire family's future.

As one parent shared, "Before this support, I worried every day about my child's future. Now, I see possibilities." And as Scripture reminds us, "Let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth." Because of you, that love is being lived every day in Camden.

On behalf of our Board, our team, and the families you serve, thank you. Together, we are opening doors, inspiring dreams, and breaking the cycle of generational poverty—one child at a time.

We look forward to continuing this work in 2026 and hope you will join us at our Back to School Celebration on October 22, 2026, at The Collingswood Ballroom, where our Joseph Fund Scholars will be eager to meet the community who makes their education possible.

With deepest gratitude,
Patty Savage
Chair, The Joseph Fund of Camden



Board of Trustees



2025 Board of Trustees, pictured left to right. Row 1: Sharon Hammel, Patricia Savage - *Chair*, and Dr. Molly Phillips. Row 2: Kyle Jamaitis - *Vice Chair*, Edward Hutchinson, Brian Lynn, Christopher Campbell - *Secretary*, Robert Kennedy, David DeStefano, David Johnson, and Robert Hoey. Not pictured: Neal Rafferty, Lee Shields, and Gerard Toscani.

Our Mission

To transform lives through education.

Our Vision

To end the cycle of generational poverty by providing educational opportunities.

Our Value

We co-invest with families who are committed to quality education.

2025

AT A GLANCE



340 Scholars
received high-quality education in a safe setting



\$1,000,000
endowment established



\$580,685 raised
to empower Camden children



280 Donors
united to disrupt the cycle of poverty



50 Backpacks
filled with school supplies for the year



113 Students
brought their learning to life at the Constitution Center

Making an Impact *in Camden*

Catholic Partnership Schools

The Joseph Fund aims to be a partner in Camden youth's education from an early age. With the goal of nurturing lifelong learners, families enrolled in the Catholic Partnership Schools are our largest benefactor.

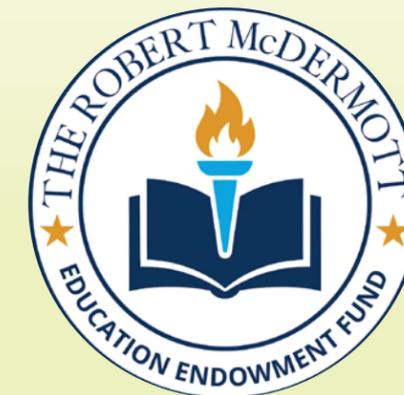
Over the last five years, we have provided tuition assistance so that more than 270 Joseph Fund Scholars from kindergarten through eighth grade could receive a high-quality, values based education. This dream is possible thanks to support totaling more than \$475,000.



Monsignor Robert McDermott Education Fund: A steadfast commitment to education.

In 2025, The Joseph Fund and Catholic Partnership Schools founded a \$1 million endowment to focus on funding the cost to educate students. This will ensure that the next generation of children in Camden can continue to attend safe, values-based schools.

The Monsignor Robert McDermott Education Fund is a significant step in preserving access to high academic expectations, personalized support, and secure and nurturing classrooms. His legacy lives on by continuing his life's work of transforming lives through education. Camden is experiencing a resurgence, and high-quality education is a vital catalyst for its continued ascent.



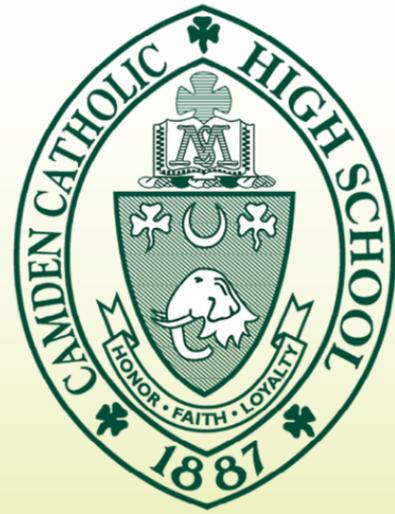
Making an Impact

in Camden

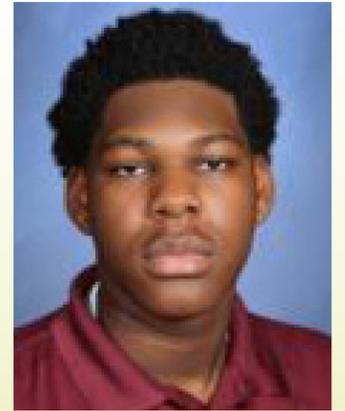
2025-2026

Through generous support, 16 students from Camden Catholic and Gloucester Catholic High Schools received tuition assistance. This investment in their education not only eases financial burdens but also empowers them to excel academically and grow as future leaders.

Since 2021, 45 high school students have been able to lay the groundwork for the rest of their lives thanks to \$180,000 of our support.



Darius Attoh-Mensah
2027



Daniel Bailey
2028



Emely Botello-Morales
2029



Dauda Fofano
2028



Jose Hernandez
2028



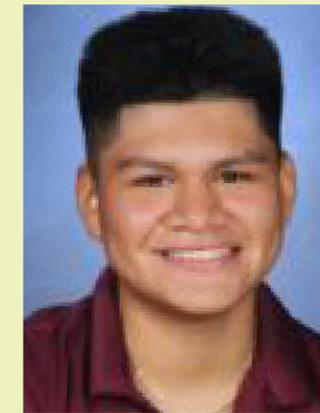
Adrianna Plaza
2027



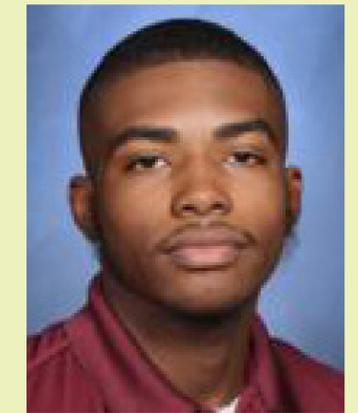
Gary Connelly Jr
2028



Ruth Cutuli
2028



Fernando Jardon-Morales
2027



Zy'Air Mercado
2028

“YOU HAVE INSPIRED ME TO KEEP PUSHING FORWARD AND TO GIVE BACK WHENEVER I CAN. THANK YOU FOR BELIEVING IN STUDENTS LIKE ME AND INVESTING IN OUR FUTURES.”

– Gary Connelly Jr



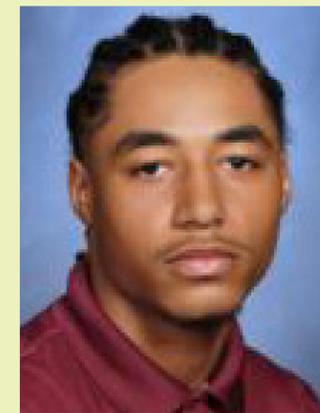
Richard Saenz
2026



Genesis Velez
2029



Edward Pineiro
2028



Jayden Rodgers
2028



Mirlenis Rodriguez
2026



Jaelyn Vasquez
2027

Making an Impact

in Camden

Summer Enrichment Program

The Procacci Family Summer Enrichment Program is a two-month, curriculum-based summer program that serves as a gateway for Pre-K and kindergarten students to begin their educational journeys. We are proud to partner with the Procacci Family and the St. Joseph Child Development Center to provide year-round stability to the families we support.



SINCE 2022, **162** STUDENTS HAVE BEEN ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR VERY OWN SUMMER ENRICHMENT PROGRAM THANKS TO MORE THAN **\$270,000** IN SUPPORT.



Lincoln Tech Partnership

This summer, The Joseph Fund took an exciting new step in our mission to uplift Camden youth: supporting trade education for the very first time!

We had the honor of awarding a \$1,000 scholarship to Cassandra Guzman, a recent Camden high school graduate, in order to participate in the Medical Assistant Certificate Program at Lincoln Tech. Cassandra is the first recipient through our newly established partnership with the Lincoln Foundation for Education.

The day we presented Cassandra with her scholarship was incredibly special. Touring Lincoln Tech campus, meeting the staff, and learning about the hands-on training that's transforming lives. With the realities of today's job market, vocational education helps young people to break into thriving industries and start their careers.

Cassandra has high hopes for the future, and with her drive, she'll be an incredible addition to the medical field.

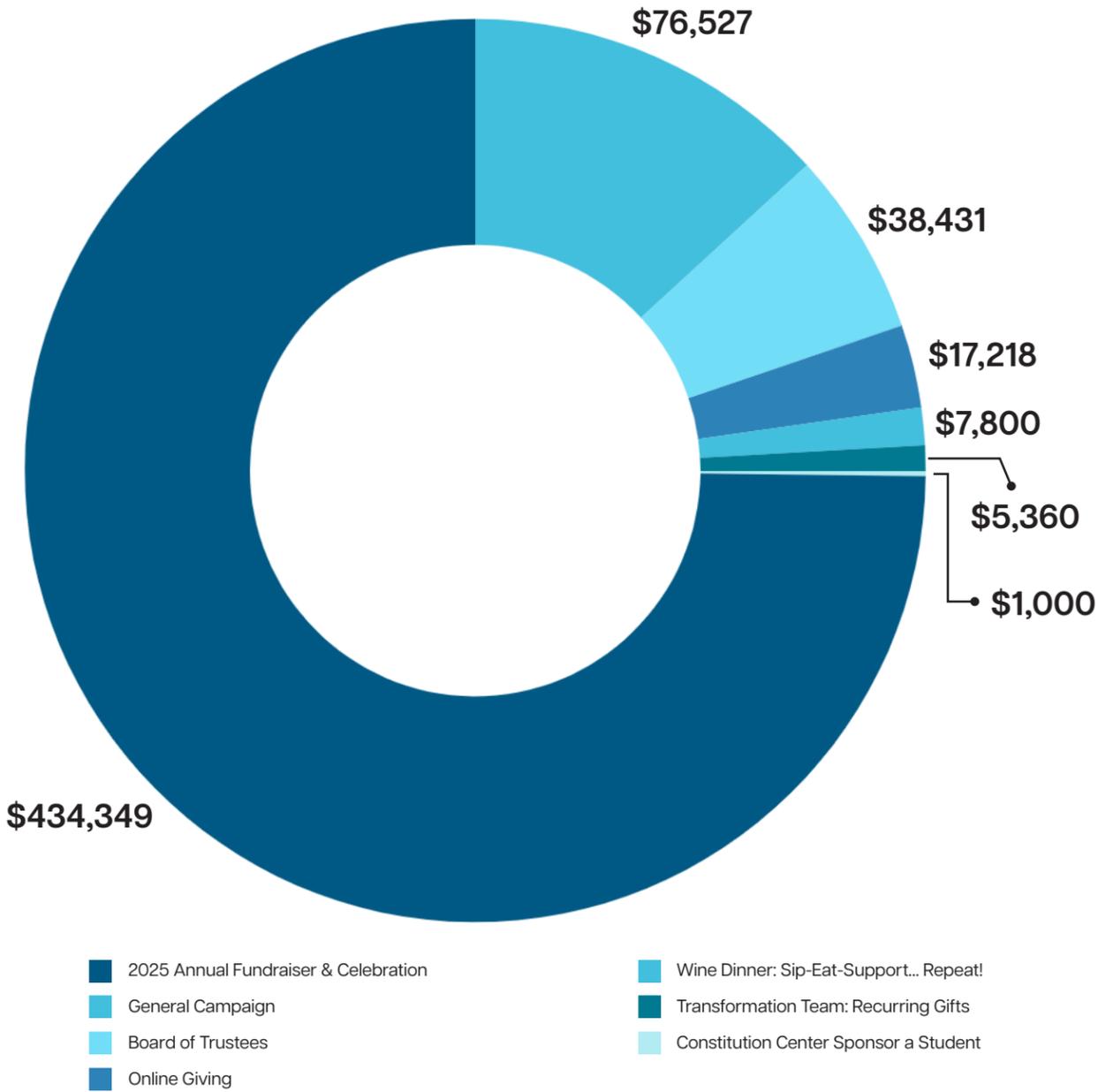


“THANK YOU FOR THE HELP AT MY PROGRAM, IT IS WELL APPRECIATED AND HAS DONE ME SO MUCH GOOD! THANK YOU!”

— Cassandra Guzman

Giving Report

Our focus on transforming lives begins with an investment in the education of our youth. The Joseph Fund would like to thank our community for rapidly growing Father Bob's mission to transform the city of Camden.



THE JOSEPH FUND IS PROUD TO BE PART OF CAMDEN'S REVITALIZATION.

2025 Highlights



\$85,000
in matching gifts from
the Bernard Foundation
and Anonymous

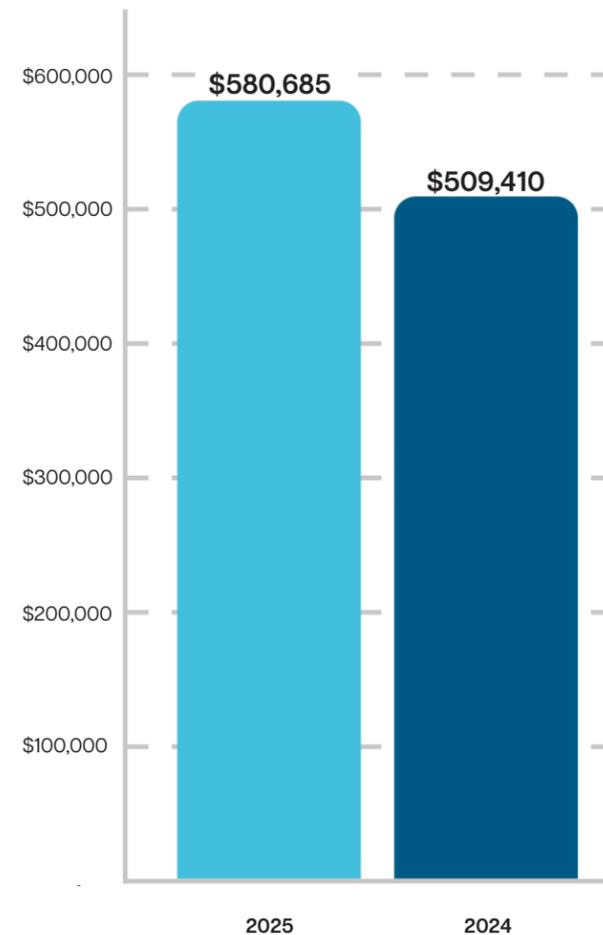


10
Scholars sponsored from
Kindergarten through Grade 8
by the Lepsis Family

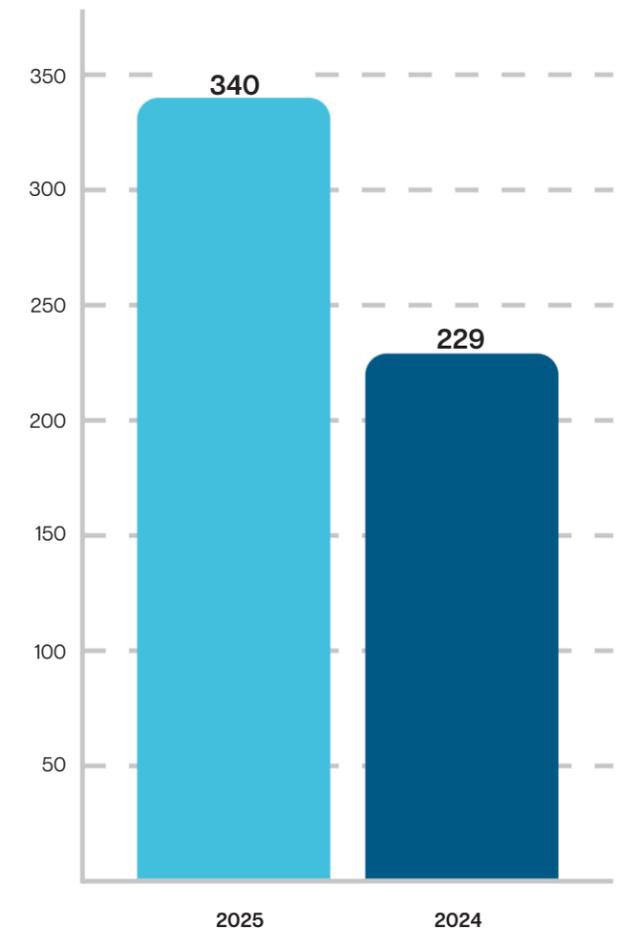


\$187,005
raised in one night at the
Back to School Celebration!

Total Funds Raised



Scholars Empowered



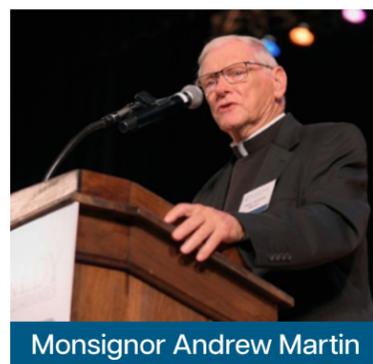
A Hand-up to Help Others *Rise*

The Joseph Fund Annual Back to School Fundraiser and Celebration felt right at home in our new venue, the Collingswood Grand Ballroom. At the start of the cocktail hour, community members were greeted by volunteers from **Camden Catholic High School**. The balcony area buzzed with enthusiasm as fellow education advocates celebrated the start of another school year. There, attendees admired projects from

Robert T. McDermott Philanthropy and Community Service Award. As lifelong friends and former roommates, Msgr. Martin captivated the audience and highlighted the lasting impact of The Joseph Fund on Camden students, as well as Msgr. McDermott's enduring legacy.

Before returning to the ballroom, guests were treated to a surprise performance! The newly formed **CPS Cheer**

“WE NEED TO FEED OUR YOUNG STUDENTS... WITH THE FOOD OF OPPORTUNITY. THE OPPORTUNITY OF A QUALITY, CATHOLIC EDUCATION THAT MAY BE FOR THEM THAT ONE ASSIST THAT WILL, WITH GOD’S GRACE, LITERALLY CHANGE THEIR LIVES.”



Monsignor Andrew Martin

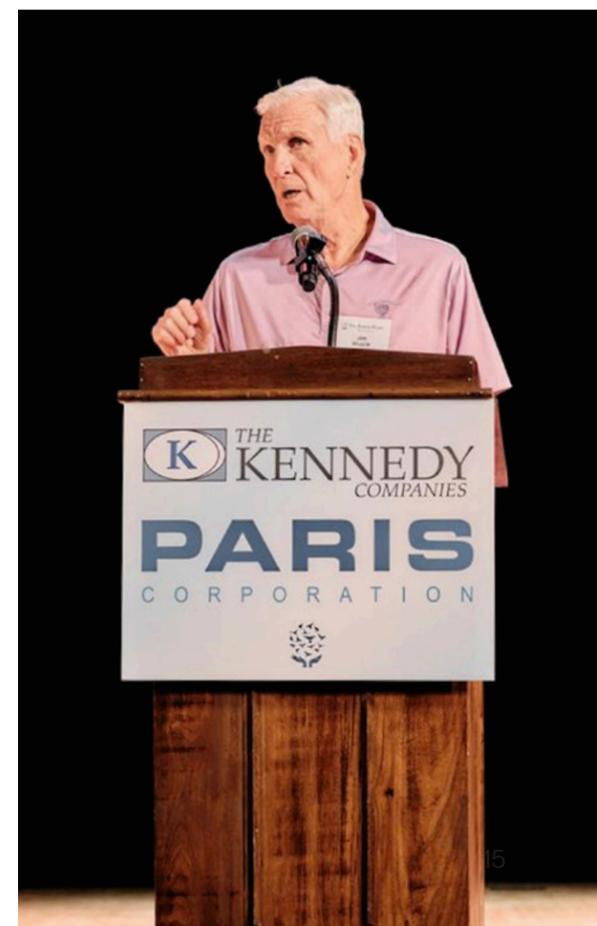
Catholic Partnership School (CPS) students ranging from **Pre-K self-portraits** to **eighth graders’ reflective essays**—showcasing the strides they are making in their educational journeys.

Squad ran up the tunnel and burst onto the stage, performing their routine with energy and pride. It was their first time cheering in front of a crowd this size, and they did a fabulous job!

After getting settled, guests moved to the historic Scottish Rite auditorium. The program officially opened with the inaugural **Faith in Action Award** presented to **Jim Wujcik**, Past Chair of The Joseph Fund Board of Trustees. Next, **Marie Quigley** reflected on her time with our founder, Msgr. Robert McDermott, as she graciously accepted her **Faith in Action Award**.

With the help of our volunteers, everyone made their way back into the ballroom following this electric performance. There, attendees had the chance to meet several of our current scholars: **Dauda (Camden Catholic)**, **Cassandra (Lincoln Tech)**, **Ruth (Gloucester Catholic)**, and **Fernando (Gloucester Catholic)**. Each expressed deep gratitude for the opportunity to pursue their education and interests at their respective schools as they prepare for life beyond graduation. We also heard from **Alexa Salva**, a parent

Continued on page 16



A Hand-up to Help Others *Rise*

of **Summer Enrichment** scholars, who shared how this program has been monumental for local families.

Year over year, we continue to provide a hand-up to help others rise. From the Community House to the Collingswood Grand Ballroom, our community has shown up strong for Joseph Fund Scholars across Camden. The fundraising portion of the night was nothing short of miraculous. Not only did we unlock a **\$50,000** match from **The Ralph L. & Florence A. Bernard Foundation**, but another member of the crowd also stepped up and rallied everyone to achieve an additional **\$35,000** match.

In total, the Celebration raised over **\$430,000** for current and future Joseph Fund Scholars! Thank you for making life-changing opportunities possible for these bright, active, and ambitious learners.

Three Years of Impact



Thank You to Our Sponsors!

Every year, our scholars, parents, and community partners gather to enjoy each other's company and honor the brilliance and tenacity of Camden's youth. We are immensely grateful for our generous sponsors who go above and beyond to provide a safe, high-quality education as the first step to a bright future for the children we serve.

PRESENTING



BRIGHT FUTURE



CHAMPION



HONOR ROLL



The Joan & Bernard Spain Foundation

TRAILBLAZER



Burke Family Foundation
Jim and Dolores Doyle
Ann and Bernie Flynn

Monica & Louis Keeler
Jeannie Martin

Christine Mchale
Ocean Seven Properties LLC

SPECIAL THANKS

Ralph L. & Florence A. Bernard Foundation
The Barbara and Robert M. Brown Charitable Trust Fund
Linda and David DeStefano
Thomas and Diane Doyle
Karl Ebert

The Harry Halloran, Jr. Charitable Trust
Richard Haydinger
Ed and Dee Hutchinson Trust
Rosanna and Paul Innes
Jill Klaus

Brian and Amy Lepsis
Brian and Libby Lynn
Pepe and Peggy Piperno
Charles Reed
Right At Home, PA
Patty and Tom Savage
Anonymous Angel



Kyle Jamaitis

Catching Up with Our Scholars



Joseph Fund Scholars Explore Civic Values and Constitutional Freedoms

This year, over one hundred Joseph Fund Scholars from four Catholic Partnership Schools had a memorable and enriching experience as they visited the National Constitution Center for the very first time. The field trip, which marked the culmination of their seventh grade studies, brought to life the core concepts of constitutional rights, civic responsibility, and democratic principles that students have explored throughout the school year.

Known as America's leading platform for constitutional education and debate, the National Constitution Center offers a dynamic space where history and civic engagement intersect. This visit was especially timely, as students explored the museum's newest exhibit, The First Amendment Gallery, which highlights five of

the most fundamental freedoms protected under the U.S. Constitution: religious liberty, free speech, a free press, the right to assemble, and the right to petition the government. For many Scholars, the exhibit sparked deep conversations about the importance of these freedoms and how they shape their daily lives.

To extend this powerful experience, students participated in reflection and dialogue activities, digging deeper into the First Amendment and the other 26 constitutional rights that define American democracy. These discussions fostered a sense of ownership over their roles as informed and active citizens. We are proud to help bring classroom lessons to life and reinforce the enduring values that shape strong communities.

Thank you to our sponsors who supported this dream by providing transportation, lunch, and students' admission!



Terese Brittingham
Kathleen Dougherty
Fr. Dave Grover
Rosanna Innes

Jeannie Martin
Michael Moran
Mary Catherine Pierson
Kathleen Slotman



“THE SAINT CECILIA SCHOOL 7TH GRADE GROUP RETURNED BACK TO SCHOOL SO HAPPY. THEY WERE TELLING ME EVERY DETAIL; THEY LOVED THE DAY. THANK YOU FOR MAKING OUR CHILDREN EXCITED ABOUT LEARNING.”

– Ronnie Rhea, Physical Education and Art Teacher, Saint Cecilia School

Camden Catholic Breakfast

The Joseph Fund was grateful for the chance to spend time with our Scholars as Camden Catholic High School hosted its annual scholarship breakfast! This gathering brought students and donors together, creating space for genuine conversations and a deeper appreciation of the transformation happening in Camden. It was wonderful that students from every grade level could connect over their appreciation for their historic school. As a bonus, 2025 Msgr. McDermott Award Honoree Monsignor Martin kicked off the morning!





THE JOSEPH FUND

— OF CAMDEN —



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