

Paul's Place Annual Report – 2024

By Miliene Dallegrand, Director of Paul's Place After School

In 2000, Paul's Place was established as a safe place for “*at risk*” children in the Delray Beach Community. Now, a quarter century later, Paul's Place is still serving as a safe haven for the youths in the community providing daily nutritious meals and snacks, academic tutoring, as well as enrichment activities such as Art, music, sports, nature and science. Throughout the years, Paul's Place has transformed into a program that is far more comprehensive than any other after-school program in the area. Our students do not “*age out*” of our after school. We strive to support our students through high school and into college as well as providing guidance for their parents.

Currently, there are 35 students at Paul's Place ranging in age from the ages 5-18. In addition, we have 7 college students who continue to receive academic guidance, help with financial aid, scholarships, or computer access. It is our hope that Paul's Place will empower them to successfully navigate through college culminating in the attainment of a college degree.

Here are some of the things that we are currently doing:



Serving the daily academic needs of our elementary, middle and high school students with separately tailored academic programs guided by staff and loving volunteers, followed by supervised recreational activities and a delicious family-style meal



Enrichment Programs such as Art, violin lesson via Symphonia, embroidery, nature and science programs by the Sandoway Discovery Center, swimming, and Tennis Lessons at the Delray Beach Tennis Center through the Delray Beach Youth Tennis Foundation.



Providing mentors for many of our students through our partnerships with Ruth & Norman Rales Jewish Family Services. Our mentors provide the Paul's Place students with support, guidance, and encouragement.



Making regular contact with our students' teachers, guidance counselors and principals. Advocating for our students to ensure they are receiving the appropriate academic and behavioral interventions.



Identifying scholarship opportunities at private schools for our most capable and driven students



Providing a Summer Enrichment Program which offers simulated real world activities that are intended to prepare our teens for adult responsibilities. Some of the activities include career planning, finding jobs, paying bills, grocery shopping, budgeting, cooking and managing the curve balls that come in life



Offering continued assistance to our former students, who are in college (i.e., registration help, applying for financial aid and scholarship, academic counseling or quiet study areas).



Building upon the success of the Stretch Gardiner Scholarship Fund which enables us to help support our students in 4 students in private schools and 7 in college.

Paul's Place stands apart from typical after-school programs. We are transforming the lives of underserved students by going beyond simply providing a safe space to play. We're providing meaningful intervention. With this in mind, we're committed to actively shaping the positive futures of these children. We are deeply thankful to the Clergy, Vestry, and Parishioners of St. Paul's, as well as the broader community, for their continued support of our mission and ministry.

