



THE CHILDREN'S HOME SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY

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PRESS RELEASE

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The Princeton Area Community Foundation has Awarded a \$25,000 Spring 2014 Greater Mercer Grant to the Trenton Education Dance Institute

Trenton, NJ (July 14, 2014) – The Princeton Area Community Foundation has recently awarded the Trenton Education Dance Institute (TEDI) a \$25,000 Greater Mercer Grant. The funds from this grant will be used to support this highly-engaging school-based program, which teaches students critical life skills such as communication, cooperation, confidence, determination, and pride in personal achievement through the art of dance. TEDI, a program of The Children's Home Society of New Jersey (CHSoF NJ) introduces students to the arts while developing their physical, cognitive, creative and interpersonal skills.

Trenton students attend schools with high dropout and low graduation rates, in a community suffering severe and continuing economic distress. The city is plagued by gangs and criminal activity, and nearly half of Trenton's children (47.3%) are overweight or obese. The lack of academic enrichment and recreational activities has a serious impact on children from impoverished and low-income families struggling to succeed. TEDI confronts these problems by providing positive and meaningful interaction with adults, supplementing and reinforcing classroom instruction, and providing experiences that students enjoy.

The TEDI program will serve approximately 185 Trenton public school students during the 2014-2015 school year. The skills learned through the TEDI curriculum reinforce the skills taught in the classroom, and help Trenton children grow into successful individuals and productive members of society.

The 2014 Princeton Area Community Foundation Spring Greater Mercer Grants are made possible by the collective generosity of several PACF donor funds given by people who care about the region, its long-term well being, and the nonprofits who work hard on behalf of its residents. The Princeton Area Community Foundation also enjoys the collaborative support of the Harbourton Foundation, whom has generously extended the reach of these grants.

About Trenton Education Dance Institute

The Trenton Education Dance Institute, a program of The Children's Home Society of New Jersey, is a member of the National Dance Institute (NDI) founded by Jacques d'Amboise, former principal dancer with the New York City Ballet. TEDI has operated in partnership with the Trenton Public School District since 1989.

About The Children's Home Society of New Jersey

The Children's Home Society of New Jersey is a nonprofit child and family serving agency whose mission is to save children's lives and build healthy families. Founded in 1894, the agency protects abused or neglected infants and at-risk children by insuring stable, permanent, and loving homes for each and every child it serves. All services are confidential and most are free. For more information, visit our website at www.chsofnj.org.

For more information regarding The Children's Home Society of New Jersey or this Press Release, please contact Denise Wentzler, CHSofNJ Director of Marketing, Communications, and Funds Development at dwentzler@chsofnj.org or 609-695-6274 ext. 153