with high-quality education programs that prepare them for success in school, the workplace, and life. Christopher House's family of schools provides low-income children, from birth to age 18, and their parents

**%S6** 

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## **Dear Friend**,

At Christopher House, we believe every child deserves a quality education and a nurturing home. This year, we've dramatically expanded to help an additional 200 at-risk families. In the fall, we opened our new center in Belmont Cragin, which is the city's first birth through 8th grade school. We need your support to continue this important work.





## **Anna's Story**

Anna came to Christopher House in 2010 as a young mother-to-be in a dire situation. A junior in high school, she had great potential, but had no positive support system and little knowledge of parenting. Anna enrolled in our Parent School, where dedicated staff members teach parents to build healthy households and engage in their child's education and development. With Christopher House's help, Anna removed herself from an unhealthy relationship with her daughter's father and built a positive web of support with her peers, her parents, and our staff. Through our program, Anna's self-esteem improved and she proactively set goals for herself and her daughter. Every week, Anna attended our educational workshops and meetings to learn all she could about supporting her daughter's development through appropriate activities, nutrition, and behaviors.

Today, after graduating from high school with honors, Anna is in her second year of an accelerated nursing program. She is an active member of our Parent Council, advocating for the programs that made such a difference in her own life. Anna is a role model for other young mothers, giving practical advice on the importance of finishing school and working hard to achieve goals. Our staff who know her best are constantly "amazed at how focused she is."

With Christopher House's help, Anna is providing a stable, supportive home for her daughter to grow up in – a home where education and achievement are highly valued. This holiday season, your gift will allow us to make more stories like Anna's possible. We need your support to maintain and expand Christopher House's real, life-changing impact.

## Give a gift, change a life.

- □ \$50 Gives a Child a Good Start. Your donation will pay for two children in our Infant and Pre-School to go on a field trip to the Children's Museum to build literacy and communication abilities.
- □ \$100 Gives a Student the Tools to Succeed. Your donation will pay for a year's worth of school supplies for a student at our Elementary School.
- □ \$500 Gives a Teen a Brighter Future. Your donation will pay for two students in our After-School to visit colleges to help prepare and inspire them to achieve.
- □ \$1,000 Gives a Parent the Skills to Thrive. Your donation will pay for classes for a parent in our Parent School to gain the skills to become self-sufficient and help her child thrive.
- □ \$2,500 Gives a Family Better Opportunities. Your donation will pay for the network of education and family support services that will help an entire family thrive.

Your gift will help us foster healthy, educated, motivated children and stable, self-sufficient families.

Yes! I want to donate \$\_\_\_\_\_ to make a difference!

