



NEWS RELEASE

Horizons National Awarded Pew Grant for Philadelphia Expansion

The three-year funding award will allow Horizons to provide high-quality summer learning programs to more children in the Greater Philadelphia area

Philadelphia, PA – Horizons National is delighted to announce a three-year \$200,000 grant award to support its learning programs in the Philadelphia area. The existing Philadelphia Horizons programs, Horizons at The Episcopal Academy (HEA) and Horizons at Greene Street Friends (HGSF), currently serve students from low-income families in North Philadelphia, Germantown, and Lansdowne. Students begin Horizons the summer after Kindergarten and return each year through Eighth Grade.

A portion of the grant award will be used to develop new Horizons sites to serve more children in the Philadelphia area. Horizons plans to expand by partnering with area independent schools, charter schools, colleges and universities to provide more high-quality summer learning programs that will close the opportunity and achievement gaps for children in greater Philadelphia. The existing Philadelphia Horizons programs, HEA and HGSF, are leading the charge to promote regional expansion in the Greater Philadelphia area.

“Funding is vital to our goal for regional growth in the greater Philadelphia area,” said Lorna Smith, CEO of Horizons National. “All children deserve the chance to thrive, and Horizons provides a proven way to combat today’s growing opportunity gap.” On average, Horizons students advance two to three months in reading and math skills each summer and have higher school year attendance.

Dr. T.J. Locke, Head of School of The Episcopal Academy remarks, “Since launching our Horizons program seven summers ago, we have seen the difference summer learning makes to our Horizons students who return each summer. The Horizons program on campus has become an integral part of how we invest in our community and embodies Episcopal Academy’s core principles of Mind, Body and Spirit. We applaud The Pew Charitable Trusts’ support of education initiatives like Horizons.”

Greene Street Friends Head of School Dr. Ed Marshall reflects, “Horizons allows us to fulfill our mission in several ways: as a public/private partnership, as a strong connector with our central Germantown neighbors, and as a partnership with the people of Philadelphia. We are incredibly grateful to The Pew Charitable Trusts for investing in these children and this program.”

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About Horizons at Episcopal Academy (HEA)

In 2013, HEA began as the first Horizons site in the Greater Philadelphia area. HEA improves educational outcomes for students from low-income families by providing quality academic and enrichment opportunities, which enable them to realize their full potential. For 2019, HEA will welcome 120 students from North Philadelphia and Lansdowne, Delaware County to Episcopal Academy's campus in Newtown Square, PA.

About Horizons at Greene Street Friends

Horizons GSF launched in summer 2016 as the second site in the region. Students attending the HGSF program live in the Germantown neighborhood where Greene Street Friends is located. In addition to the academic enrichment focus on reading, writing, mathematics, and STEAM, the program takes advantage of experiential opportunities including off-campus trips to our local branch of the Free Library and the neighborhood community recreation center. In summer 2019, HGSF will welcome 60 students from the John Wister Elementary School.

About Horizons National

Horizons National is a growing, community-centered network of over 60 affiliate sites nationwide that provides high-quality academic enrichment programs to children in need, from Pre-K through high school. Located on the campuses of independent schools, charter schools, colleges, and universities, Horizons programs offer a project-based curriculum, focused on reading, STEM, the arts, fitness, nutrition, and field trips.

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