

“Character  
is power.”

BOOKER T. WASHINGTON  
LEARNING CENTER

2002 Annual Report



“Any person’s life  
will be filled  
with constant  
and unexpected  
encouragement  
if they make up  
their mind  
to do their  
level best  
each day.”

– Booker T. Washington






## OUR MISSION

Founded in 1987, as the primary operating program of the East Harlem Urban Center, the mission of the Booker T. Washington Learning Center is to break the cycle of inadequate education, poverty and despair which pervades East Harlem – El Barrio, while working to maintain a viable and hopeful community. The Learning Center works to strengthen the community through educational programming, youth development, computer training, job placement, family counseling and college preparation. Equally as important is the personal attention and loving guidance that each child and adult in the program receives. The


Learning Center provides a safe place for children to learn and grow.

Students come every day to a place lined with books, a wall of computers, a generous group of volunteers, a social place with limits, priorities, standards, and a relaxed but serious environment.

The Learning Center provides the structured and consistent atmosphere every child and adult needs to achieve. We have created a very necessary space for the families of East Harlem and after fifteen years of delivering services, we are proud of the quality, growth and promise that is evident at Booker T.



Rev. Leroy Ricksy, C.S.W.  
Executive Director



Rev. Kimberly R. Wright  
Assistant Executive Director

“In proportion as **one renders service**  
**one becomes great.**”

## PROGRAMS

For over a decade the Learning Center has provided a safe, structured, and loving environment for East Harlem's children, while giving their parents an opportunity to focus on work, education, or recovery as they learn to become self-sufficient. The Learning Center's programs focus on education because education has a positive influence on a person's values, self-esteem and ambition. The Learning Center aims to improve school performance, and foster an interest in learning. The staff strives to provide a warm, supportive and encouraging atmosphere for children to learn. We also provide a welcoming place for parents to share concerns, obtain help with personal and family problems, become involved in their children's education, and further their own learning.

## VOLUNTEERS

Without volunteers, Booker T. would not be what it is to the community. With more than forty volunteers each week lending expertise, assistance, concern, attention and support to every program, Booker T. is able to give its participants the highest quality of service imaginable. Our dedicated volunteers make Booker T. a place where kids and adults know that people do care for and believe in them. Several of our volunteers have been with us for more than five years.



“Success is to be measured



not so much by the position  
that one has reached in life  
as by the obstacles  
which one has  
overcome.”

## AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Fifteen years ago, Rev. Ricksy began helping four children with their homework. Today, there are more than sixty children being served at the center between the hours of 3:00pm and 6:00pm.

Our After School Program provides children ages 4 to 13 with one-on-one tutoring, group projects, and enrichment field trips. Students have access to computers, where they use educational software, receive training on word processing software, keep computer journals, communicate with e-mail pen-pals from around the world, and learn how to conduct research on the Internet. Each child is in a developmentally appropriate math and literacy program and is able to mark their improvement regularly.

The after school operates as a second school and a second home for our children. The success of this program is seen in the children's accomplishments, character and spirit.

*“I am often motivated when I reflect on the motto that hangs on the wall at BTWLC, “Learn to do well”. This gets me through the rough times at home, at college, with friends, and at work. I want to do something great with my life. I want to help others and teach them to help themselves. I expect that one day someone will be as grateful for my efforts as I am for the people at BTWLC. I cannot believe that I am part of the center now. I feel very proud.”*

*Shakeisha Peebles*



# “The world cares very little about what a man or woman knows;

*“Rev. Ricksy was determined to have no young person who knew him grow up without opportunity, support, and resources. He taught us that these are ingredients for success. He drilled into us the idea that we are as capable as any other people. I started when I was 6; I remained until I was thirteen or fourteen years old. I am thankful for The Booker T. Washington Learning Center and I hope that in the future, I will be able to contribute to the center in a significant way.”*

*Tyrell Crockett*

## Y – L.E.A.D.

Y – L.E.A.D. (Youth for Leadership, Education, Achievement and Discipline); focuses on aiding adolescents from our community in developing the skills they need to become successful adults. Y – L.E.A.D. serves teens, ages 10-16, many of whom have been part of Booker T. for several years. This innovative program helps to build the leadership and academic skills of East Harlem’s teens through five character building components: 1) Academics; 2) Mentoring; 3) Work and Vocation; 4) Health Education; and 5) Family Development Skills. Y – L.E.A.D. provides our teens with marketable job skills; academic readiness; and leadership skills as well as a stronger sense of self and community so that they may enter into the world prepared and with a strong conviction to succeed.

## PRE-SCHOOL PROGRAM

The Pre-school Program was established in 1990 to address the developmental needs of children born addicted to crack cocaine. The Pre-school Program operates five days a week from 8:00 a.m. through 3:00 p.m. An extended day is available from 3:00 - 6:00 p.m. Approximately 16 children, ages 3-5, are enrolled in the program. The Pre-school Program is designed to concentrate on the growth and development of the whole child, with an emphasis on learning through play. While we continue to serve families with a myriad of issues, our preschool program seeks and serves children from a variety of backgrounds and ethnic groups.





it is what the man  
or woman  
is able to do.”



“Few things can help an individual more than to

*“I don't know what I would do without the help of this program. My kids love it here and I love what's happening here. I have a child in pre-school, two in after-school, one in Y-LEAD and I will be in the GED course.”*

*Mertha*

## KIDZ CREATE

Kidz Create is the newest program at Booker T. This dynamic program encourages young people from 12-18 years old to reach out to their peers and community by creating and performing theatrical presentations. The adults call it drama with a purpose. The Kidz call it "FUN!" Through Kidz Create, young people are able to have meaningful discussions about what is important to them, get the facts, write scripts and share relevant messages with other young people. In addition, they are trained in various aspects of theatre. The combination of literacy, theatre and community service is showing great promise for these young people.

## L.E.A.P.

In 1997, the Learning Center established L.E.A.P. (Learning Enrichment Activities Program) for 4 to 11 year old children as a reading readiness program. L.E.A.P. meets every Saturday from 10:00 a.m. until 12 noon. The program aims to cultivate a love of learning and enhance literacy through creative activities such as computer training, reading, drama, storytelling, art projects, cooking, board games, gardening, and regular field trips to places such as the Bronx Zoo and Central Park. Volunteers are available to provide one-on-one tutoring for youngsters who need additional help.



place responsibility on him, and to let him know that you trust him.”

*“The responsibility to impact someone’s life in a positive and powerful way is awesome. I can not believe how much meaning my life holds since coming to Booker T. I have never had a day when I have come to work and not had my spirits lifted by the smiles, jokes, and accomplishments of the kids. They are not angels, but they are multitalented and creative. That overpowers everything else. I have established more relationships with people during the last year than I had my entire life. These relationships are deep and have influenced me like none before.”*

*Jillian Pacheco*

## YOUNG ADULT PROGRAM

The Young Adult Program helps high school and college students within and beyond the East Harlem community define their interests and goals and prepare for higher education and careers. It also aims to produce self-confident and civic-minded young adults who will make a positive contribution to the community. Booker T. supports these young people by offering volunteer, internship and employment opportunities. In addition, there are strong mentoring, tutoring and training components. The hope of this program is to develop leadership skills, strong values, a sense of personal responsibility and a life-long love for learning. Presently, five of our six college students are on full academic scholarship while working at Booker T.

## TURNING POINT

Our Adult Education Program offers members of our community G.E.D preparation, counseling, computer training, as well as work and college readiness workshops. Turning Point strives to equip adults to further their education and achieve economic independence. We accept individuals and collaborate with other schools and community based organizations to offer educational opportunities to those most in need. Very often our participants are the parents of our younger students. Last year 100 percent of our graduates found meaningful employment, entered the Armed Forces, went on to further education and/or earned their GED. The future looks very bright for Booker T.



# “Character, not circumstances, make the person.”

*“I know that it is possible to be a good mother, not depend on public assistance, and complete my education. I am the mission of this agency fully accomplished. I will continue to develop so that my daughter can depend on and respect me. I refuse to be another statistic that people shake their heads at. People should smile when they look at me and I will proudly smile back. Attending the B.T.W.L.C. has made me realize that I am smart enough and strong enough to do anything I put my mind to. Nothing is impossible in life.”*

*Lateesha Delk*

## SUMMER PROGRAM

Our Summer Program was created in 1989 to provide youngsters, ages 4 through 13, with a fun, safe and stimulating alternative to an empty apartment or dangerous city streets. The program runs for seven weeks each summer, from 8:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. Youngsters receive academic tutoring, computer instruction, lessons in cooking, art, and writing, as well as participation in traditional recreational activities. Field trips include visits to the Children’s Museum of Manhattan, the Central Park Zoo, the Museum of Natural History, the Conservatory Gardens, the New York Aquarium, Bear Mountain, and Liberty Science Center. Highlights for the summer were our annual barbecue and pool party, a class in economics, PowerPoint presentations and our end of the summer Olympics.

## A GRASSROOTS ASPEN EXPERIENCE

During the summer and winter, young people at Booker T. are sent to Aspen, Colorado to participate in a summer and winter program that combines a challenging outdoor experience with intensive counseling. This program forces troubled youth to search themselves and set achievable goals for themselves. In addition, it offers young people who are doing well the opportunity to develop their leadership potential. Some of the activities are downhill skiing, snowboarding, white water rafting, rock-climbing and rappelling and camping in the mountains.





“Nothing ever comes to one,



that is worth having  
except as a result  
of hard work.”

## THE FUTURE

The Learning Center now has the opportunity to build a dream home, with plenty of space for enhancement and expansion. Plans call for the building of a new facility that will be the permanent home of The Booker T. Washington Learning Center. This facility will be built next to the Church of the Resurrection where Booker T. is presently housed. When completed, the facility will house classrooms, a library, a computer laboratory, office space and a garden area. This space will accommodate 250 children and adults at one time. This new building will allow us to:

- Quadruple the number of children and families served.
- Provide a permanent space for our programs.
- Incorporate new programming such as arts education and science into our curriculum.
- Increase the number of recreational activities offered to our students such as dance, music and gardening.
- Increase our students exposure to technology through a state of the art Computer Lab.
- Unify the community by providing a safe meeting place where none currently exists.

We are attempting to complete this building and are aggressively seeking the support of Board members, friends, foundations and corporations to help us reach our goal.

**Capital Campaign Goal: \$3.7 million**

**Pledges and contributions as of 1/1/03: \$1.1 million**

Board of Directors & Advisory committee	\$ 289,721
Other Individuals	\$ 112,611
Special Events	\$ 13,960
Foundations & Corporations	\$ 704,200
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,120,492</b>



Architectural rendering of new building.  
*Brezavar & Brezavar, Architects*

## 2002–2003 OPERATING BUDGET

Salaries for Administration		Program Expenses	
Executive Director	\$ 77,000	Transportation	\$ 2,500
Assistant Executive Director	\$ 60,000	Educational Supplies	
Administrative Assistant	\$ 36,000	(including standardized	
Director of Educational		test prep, software)	\$ 17,500
Programs	\$ 37,000	Misc. Supplies (including	
Fringe (20%)	\$ 42,000	Y-LEAD workshop costs)	\$ 4,480
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 252,000</b>	Food & Related Supplies	\$ 12,000
<b>Salaries for Program Services</b>		Subscriptions/Publications	\$ 1,000
After School Aides	\$ 21,000	Field Trips and Activities	\$ 5,000
Adult Education Computer		Campus Visits	\$ 3,500
Instructor	\$ 27,000	Service Saturday Expenses	\$ 200
Adult Education Job Developer	\$ 35,000	Audit and Accounting	\$ 10,000
Case Worker	\$ 15,000	Staff Development	\$ 3,000
Summer Staff	\$ 20,000	Memberships	\$ 1,000
Y-L.E.A.D. Aides	\$ 12,000	Bank Charges	\$ 400
Y-L.E.A.D. Assistant Director	\$ 15,000	Technology (video equipment	
Pre-School Director	\$ 40,000	and software)	\$ 6,600
Pre-School Aid	\$ 20,000	Grassroots Experience	
Pre-School Aid	\$ 18,500	Conference	\$ 5,000
Cook	\$ 7,800	Dinosaur Dig	\$ 10,500
Maintenance Person	\$ 7,800	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 82,680</b>
Fringe (20%)	\$ 47,820	<b>In Kind Contributions</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 286,920</b>	Space	\$ 24,000
<b>Administration</b>		Volunteers	\$ 50,000
E. 106 St. Office	\$ 8,400	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 74,000</b>
Telephone/e-mail/web	\$ 3,000	<b>Reserve</b>	<b>\$ 21,000</b>
Equipment	\$ 2,800	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$ 740,620</b>
Maintenance Supplies	\$ 1,345		
Printing	\$ 1,175		
Postage	\$ 2,500		
Office Supplies	\$ 1,800		
Insurance	\$ 3,000		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 24,020</b>		



## SUPPORT & RESOURCES

The Booker T. Washington Learning Center depends totally on private sources of funding and does not seek government support. We are free to develop our programs and to identify and serve people in the community who need our services.

Donors include caring individuals, major corporations, financial institutions, foundations, churches, and synagogues. Below is a partial listing of 2001-2002 donors who gave 1,000.00 or more to general operating support.

2001-2002 Grant List	Statement of Activities (unaudited)*	
	<i>For the years ended March 31, 2002</i>	
Annie Eaton Society	Corporations	\$ 246,955
Barker Welfare	Foundations	180,392
Arthur Blank Family Foundation	Individuals	115,478
Robert Bowne Foundation	Religious	54,900
Brick Church	Program Fees	6,345
Brick Church- Women's Assoc.	Special Events	11,540
Clark Foundation	Special Events Costs	(4,899)
Con Edison	<b>Total Support &amp; Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 610,711</b>
Congregation Emanu-EL	Program Services	\$ 371,986
Congregational Church of Manhasset	Management & General	59,142
Cruise Industry Charitable Foundation	Fundraising	71,516
Dover Industries	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 502,644</b>
Fund for the City of New York	<b>Revenues in Excess of Expenses from Operations</b>	<b>\$ 108,067**</b>
Garden City Comm. Church	<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>\$ 16,369</b>
GreenPoint Foundation	(interest and sales of capital assets)	
Heart and Soul Charitable Fund	<b>Provision for SIT</b>	<b>\$ 125</b>
IBM	<b>Changes in Unrestricted Assets</b>	<b>\$ 124,561</b>
Jewish Communal Fund	<b>Fund Balance – beginning of year</b>	<b>\$ 637,595</b>
J.P. Morgan Chase	<b>Total Net Assets – end of year</b>	<b>\$ 762,156</b>
Manhattan Foundation		
Little River Foundation		
Madison Ave. Presbyterian		
Metzger-Price Fund		
Ohrstrom Foundation		
Orchard Park Central School		
Pinkerton Foundation		
Plymouth Church of Pilgrims		
Riverside Church		
Starr Foundation		
St. James Church		
Tara Foundation		
Travelers		
Wantagh Memorial Church		
Women's Alliance		
- Church of All Souls		

\* Financial records are audited annually , and copies of audited financial statements are available by calling Leroy Ricky at 212.831.5506.

\*\* \$41,354 accounts for capital campaign money that is temporarily invested.

The Booker T. Washington Learning Center is the primary operating program of The East Harlem Urban Center (EHUC), a not-for-profit 501©3 organization that has served the East Harlem community since 1969. EHUC offices are located at 119 East 106 Street; New York, NY 10029.

Copies of our Financial Statement and 990 can be obtained by calling our Executive Director, Leroy Ricky is at 212-831-5506.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS & ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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of East Harlem Churches  
& Community Urban Center  
Booker T. Washington  
Learning Center

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Labor Statistics*



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