



Oxford Circle

Christian Community Development Association

OCCCD A Internship Program



Through the Exchange Thrift Store, Oxford Circle CCDA (OCCCD A) has recently launched a five-week summer internship program. This program is aimed at training local youth ages 14-18 and focuses on retail, marketing, and entrepreneurship. Approved applicants are attending workshops that provide valuable information on marketing and financial literacy. Industry experts and entrepreneurs are also speaking to the interns, offering them advice based on their own professional experiences.

Throughout the past couple of weeks, seven interns have been working at the Exchange Thrift Store, as well as servicing the community by giving out food in partnership with the Share Food program. OCCCD A hopes that by the end of these five weeks, the interns will have cultivated character-building behaviors, as well as developed a set of business skills and a sense of professionalism that they can be used in any career path. When asked about his experiences interning at The Exchange, one intern explained he has already learned how to “treat the customer with proper etiquette and quality service”—a crucial skill that will benefit any work environment.

M&T Bank supports this program through the PA DCED Neighborhood Assistance Tax Credit Program. OCCCD A is grateful for the opportunity to work together to provide this program and allow more young people to serve the community and develop life skills.

Since its initial founding fifteen years ago, OCCCD A has been able to develop numerous initiatives that have provided valuable educational programs and resources to the residents of Oxford Circle. Amid the COVID-19 crisis, many lower-income families in the surrounding neighborhood have benefited from the various services.



Interns learning more about financial literacy with Operations Hope and careers in banking with M&T Bank.



Interns dressing mannequins for The Exchange Thrift Store.

Matching Gift Opportunity

OCCCD A has received a matching pledge that will match every dollar (up to \$10,000 total) of recurring donations made to OCCCD A in 2020.

So far, we have been able to raise over \$5,000!

[Click here](#) to see our progress or to make a donation.

Oxford Circle CCDA appreciates your prayers and financial support to continue serving the community with food and other resources during this time. You can donate online by clicking the donate button or mail a check to our address below.

Donate

Annual Report 2019

Below is our feature story from our Annual Report for 2019, published July 2020.

Trauma Therapy & Social-Emotional Learning



In response to high rates of trauma among students in the Oxford Circle community, OCCCD A's Family Resource Center (FRC) launched the Success Lab in September 2019 to provide individual and family therapy to kids at Carnell Elementary School that have experienced trauma.

Rebecca Hui, the Success Lab's therapist, has held recurring therapy sessions with 29 children and families affected by trauma the first year. Hui has already seen this program making a difference with a decrease in trauma-related symptoms. She is especially proud of how the children she sees are applying the skills they have learned at the Success Lab.

In addition to therapy, FRC's staff Wanda Cobb is teaching the Second Step Social-Emotional Learning curriculum in the school's 2nd grade classrooms, to help kids be able to express their emotions and in the long-run improve behavior and reduce violence. So far 180 students have completed the curriculum. We are thankful for a two-year grant from the PA Commission on Crime & Delinquency to fund programs such as these in our local public school.

Read more about our program's impact by reading our 2019 Annual Report by clicking the button below.

2019 Annual Report