A Message from Our President

To the Adopt A Class Community,

As I take a moment to reflect, 2022 has been a year of growing and strengthening significant relationships, as well as deepening our impact on the students of Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky we serve. Thank you to all of our partners for being a part of this tremendous year.

2022 saw continued commitment to the Adopt A Class program from our corporate, civic and school partners. Together, we were reminded of the immeasurable value of experiencing in-person, meaningful connections through group mentoring and the appreciation not only from our students but from our mentors as well.

Throughout 2022, we continued to ask ourselves, "What does our mission and vision truly mean, and how can we strengthen it?" We answered these questions by revamping our training and mentor orientation, creating industry and career pathway aligned curriculum and resources for our mentors and educators, developing stronger connections to community partners, building relationships with higher education institutions, all while making sure each effort is aligned to bolstering our community through our mission and vision.

We are proud of not only the outward growth of the Adopt A Class program and community, but also the inward growth we saw of our board and staff. We proudly welcomed new AAC board members Tiffany Sieve (Paycor), Nina Luckie (Kroger), and Rahiel Michael (Greater Cincinnati Port Authority) and are eager to work with each of them.

Of course, none of this could have happened without the support of our corporate sponsors, foundations, and donors like you. Thank you, from all of us here at Adopt A Class, for your support and belief in us and the work we do for the students of Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky.

The Adopt A Class future is bright! We are excited to kick off the 2022-2023 school year with a 40% program growth, serving 6,800 students with 2,700 volunteer mentors, as well as celebrating 20 years of service to Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky. Once again, thank you for being a part of Adopt A Class. We look forward to continuing to grow, strengthen, deepen, and celebrate all that comes with being a part of the Adopt A Class community with you.

Evan Clinkenbeard
Board Chair, Adopt A Class Board of Directors

Our Mission

Adopt A Class connects businesses and civic groups with students in our economically challenged schools. By pairing teams with individual classrooms, our adult mentors expose the students to a breadth of experiences and training to be job and career ready.

Our Vision

A Greater Cincinnati where all students have access to caring adults who expose them to a breadth of life and career experiences so they can unleash their full potential.
Watching the students thrive in AAC sessions is one of the favorite parts of my job. Adopt A Class brings a lot to our school—various businesses that allow our students to expand their career knowledge, and bring various skill sets to the kids. All of the monthly lessons are important— but most I enjoy seeing the confidence the students gain after they feel heard, valued and loved. -Tiffaney Hamm, Oyler School
"After High School, I think I want to be a cop, because I want to help people and I want the world to be a better place. Also we need more women police. -AAC Student"
Each year, our students learn about different careers and life experiences that got their mentors to where they are today. We love seeing our community pour their love, attention and resources into our students. - Jill Smith, Academy of World Languages Principal
AAC allows Paycor associates to engage with future leaders (students) in the community to not only share our expertise from our business, but in return all of our mentors get back as much as they give by the smiling and enthusiastic faces in the classroom. Spending time in the classroom each month brings great team building to our organization that works remotely. - Krystal Fall, Paycor

* The category “Other” includes construction, government, IT/security, insurance, military, sports, arts, entertainment, urban planning and real estate
WE COULD NOT DO THIS WITHOUT OUR INCREDIBLE PARTNER TEAMS!

4C for Children  
Altafiber*  
American Payroll Association  
Anderson Key Club  
AtriCure*  
Big Chief  
Brighton Center  
Burke and Schindler, PLL  
Cengage  
Cheviot United Methodist Church  
Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center*  
Cincinnati Fire Department  
Cincinnati Hills Christian Academy*  
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Cincinnati Police Federal Credit Union  
Cincinnati Police Department*  
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MSA Architects  
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The David J. Joseph Co.  
Terrasmart  
TriVersity  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
University of Cincinnati (Honors)  
University of Cincinnati Foundation  
Unlimited Systems  
U.S. Bank*  
U.S. Coast Guard  
U.S. Public Health Service  
Commissioned Officers Association  
VEGA Americas  
Vora Ventures  
Window World  
Women’s Alliance  

* Indicates partners that have multiple Adopt A Class teams
**Financial Report**

**2021-22 Expenditures**
- School Based Team Management: 50%
- Recruitment, Training, Outreach for Mentors: 28%
- Curriculum: 7%
- Administration: 7%
- Fundraising: 8%

**2021-22 Donations By Source**
- Corporate Funding: 55%
- Private & Community Foundations: 12%
- Individual Donations: 33%

**Income** $387,172

**Expenses** $364,313
Our Sponsors

Special thank you to our sponsors during the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

Diamond Spark
National Marketshare Group
Bill & Beth Burwinkel

Platinum Spark
Adopt A Class Endowment Fund
Bank of America
Bob and Jeanne Coughlin Fund
CitiBank
Dater Foundation
Harold C. Schott Foundation
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Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center
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The Mathie Family
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Stephen Veldhuis
Susan Haag
Theodore Bross
Tim Terrell
Tom Laine
Vernon Chouteau
Veronika Virchenko

*Indicates donations to the Adopt A Class Endowment Fund
Adopt A Class Impacting Student Lives Today

Adopt A Class is dedicated to pairing classrooms with students from underserved communities with members of the business community and civic groups to engage in career and life skills group mentoring. Many students from underserved communities find themselves lacking role models and support systems. Our mentors can be that positive influence, instilling important values and life skills while introducing critically important career concepts.

From 1 classroom of 20-some students at Oyler School, to over 6,000 students in 37 schools across Greater Cincinnati, Adopt A Class Founder Bill Burwinkel knows one of the most valuable things a person can give is their time. 2023 will be the 20th anniversary of Adopt A Class with a vision of a Greater Cincinnati where all students have access to caring adults who expose them to a breadth of life and career experiences so they can unleash their full potential. The growth of Adopt A Class from one classroom partnering with one business to more than 140 business and civic groups now impacting student’s lives speaks volumes to the support of funders, mentors, and all Adopt A Class Partners.

“...My wife and I have 2 qualifications for charitable giving, which we believe to be an obligation... 1. Will it help others find or experience true joy? 2. Will we find or experience true joy via the investment, participation and support of the respective mission. With AACEF, we have found both and are committed to its perpetuation and scalability. - Greg & Nancy Geiser

Adopt A Class Impacting Student Lives Forever

Yet, there is so much more to do! The Adopt A Class Endowment Fund (AACEF) is a partner 501(c)3 organization established almost 10 years ago to create a stable, secure and self-sustaining source of funding for Adopt A Class. The goal of AACEF is to serve as a permanent fund to support the long-term growth of Adopt A Class to reach every eligible student in Greater Cincinnati and extend those boundaries to many more students from underserved communities in the region.

Your gift to AACEF ensures the ongoing vitality of excellent programming for all AAC students, schools, mentors, and partner organizations. AACEF is governed by the AACEF Board of Directors who are dedicated to carrying out the mission of supporting a sustainable funding source for Adopt A Class.

Your gift can be mailed to: AACEF, 2153 West 8th Street, Cincinnati, OH 45204.

To donate gifts of stock, please contact Evan Clinkenbeard, evan_clinkenbeard@ml.com or 513-985-5871
Dear Adopt A Class Supporters, Mentors, Educators, and Donors,

Thank you all for your support of the Adopt A Class program. Whether you are new to our program or have been with us since the beginning, my deepest thanks for all that you do to support the students in our community during the 2021-22 academic year. Adopt A Class expanded our reach and deepened our impact through meaningful partnerships and programming.

Looking ahead, I am proud to say we are already in the works of achieving our goals for the 2022-2023 school year. We expanded to Middletown City Schools and opened our program in two elementary schools in the district, adding 13 partners to our impressive list of mentors and 325 students impacted by Adopt A Class.

We are currently serving almost 6,800 students in 270 classrooms across 36 schools, and we are continuing to match new mentor teams weekly. We are planning and implementing various program initiatives to deepen our impact for our K-2nd, 3rd-5th, and 6th-8th students. And finally, we look forward to celebrating Bill Burwinkel as 2022 Philanthropist of the Year and will keep the celebrations going well into 2023 as we celebrate our 20th anniversary. Stay tuned for our first ever Gala to celebrate our 20th anniversary next fall!

Once again, thank you all for your support and for being a part of the Adopt A Class community. We could not do what we do and have the meaningful impact of the students we serve without you.

Sincerely,

SONYA FULTZ
Chief Executive Officer, Adopt A Class
We are proud to celebrate the recognition of Adopt A Class founder, Bill Burwinkel, named 2022 Philanthropist of the Year by the Association of Fundraising Professionals Greater Cincinnati Chapter.

This award recognizes Bill’s exceptional generosity, outstanding civic and charitable responsibility, leadership roles in Greater Cincinnati organizations, and his ability to motivate and inspire others in philanthropy.

Locating his company, National Marketshare Group, in Lower Price Hill in the late 1990’s, Bill saw the need to make an impact with the youth of the community. Initially, Bill approached Oyler School, just down the street from National Marketshare Group, in Lower Price Hill and wrote checks to the school to support various needs. However, as time went by, Bill knew there was more meaningful work that could be done. This is when his team at National Marketshare Group came together in 2003 to tutor the students at Oyler School. By the end of the year, the National Marketshare Group team found the weekly commitment to tutoring was problematic for some roles in their company and came back together to create a more sustainable, impactful model for both students and mentors. Less than one year later, in 2004, the group career mentoring model was formed with all 670 students at Oyler being “adopted” by a business or community group.

Now, nearly 20 years later, Adopt A Class serves over 6,700 students in 270 classrooms across 36 partner schools with the support of more than 140 corporate and civic partners. Enter any classroom you will see students and mentors exploring careers in a wide variety of industries across the region, engaging in hands-on learning with tasks that also teach employability (life) skills, and spending a day onsite at the mentor company workplace seeing firsthand the careers in action. Bill reflected recently, “Adopt A Class is a well-hidden secret. We’re working to change that. That’s what I am excited about.”

So, what’s next? Adopt A Class, with Bill’s support, seeks to serve 100 percent of the students in Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky that qualify for the AAC program. Bill shared, “I spend all my time involved with paying back by paying forward because giving back to the Greater Cincinnati community is not an option, but an obligation.” Through his own monetary giving, fundraising, partnership developments, and time spent in the classroom mentoring, Bill is making a difference in our community, and we invite you to join us in celebrating his recognition of 2022 Philanthropist of the Year.