

TOLF NEWS

A Quarterly Newsletter brought to you by THE ONE LESS FOUNDATION

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1



THE ONE LESS

FOUNDATION is a 501 (c)(3) tax exempt nonprofit organization dedicated to alleviating poverty in communities by providing in-school services, financial literacy courses, life coaching and mentoring. Our programs aim to help the underserved in our community gain the tools they need to put themselves on the path to financial stability, leading to a way out of poverty.

For more information about our programs, please visit our website.

DONATE

To help support our organization and programs please consider making a 100% tax deductible contribution

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Thank You to Our Wonderful Supporters!

Dear Friends,

On behalf of our board, staff, and myself, I want to thank you for your support of THE ONE LESS FOUNDATION. Our mission is to provide people with the knowledge and skills they need to make decisions that will promote their economic and personal well-being—benefitting families and entire communities. Because of you, we are able to offer our programs and services to the community.

Our partnerships with several departments and agencies within the government of the City of Philadelphia, as well as businesses and community organizations have also been vital in helping us achieve our mission.

Through these partnerships, we are able to provide our participants with a wide range of resources.

Without the support and generosity of people like you, we would not be able to serve the needs of the community. We greatly appreciate the monetary donations, gift certificates, and in-kind donations of products and services you've gifted us over the past year. With your continued support, we can continue to put people on the pathway out of poverty.

Thank you for joining us in our effort to fight poverty.

Sincerely,
Ingrid R. Shepard
Executive Director

UPCOMING EVENTS



SAT & ACT Class (4 weeks long)

9/21, 10am - 1pm

9/28, 10am - 1pm

10/12, 10am - 1pm

10/19, 10am - 1pm

Next class begins November 2,
check our website for details!



Writing for College Workshops

9/21, 2pm - 5pm

9/28, 2pm - 5pm

10/12, 2pm - 5pm

10/19, 2pm - 5pm

Accomplishments 2012-2013

- Chosen as the Northwest Anchor Agency for the City of Philadelphia's Graduation Coach Campaign.
- Partnered with Operation HOPE to provide financial literacy to students in schools.
- Partnered with the City of Philadelphia Office of the Controller's Bank on Philadelphia program to provide financial literacy to un-banked and under-banked populations in Philadelphia
- Began providing our Life Coaching and Financial Literacy & Capability programs to Self Inc.'s Outley House in SW Philadelphia, which houses 250 men in transition.

TOLF has Partnered with Philadelphia Schools

For the 2013-2014 school year, we are partnering with Promise Academy at Martin Luther King, Jr. High School in the Germantown section of Philadelphia to provide our in-school Discovery and Financial Literacy programs to students, to help them prepare and get into college and to enter adulthood financially savvy. The partnership will also include providing our adult programs and workshops to parents and adults in an effort to uplift the local community and provide engaging and educational activities as a community school.

This year we will also work with students at Imani Circle Education Charter School in Germantown to pilot our Discovery and Financial Literacy programs for students in grades K-8.



**TOLF Volunteer
Doug Leard**

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2013 RISE SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



Volunteer Spotlight — Doug Leard

What is your occupation or background?

I obtained my M.B.A. from Temple University and have worked in software development for many years. Currently, I'm a Senior Director at a large software development company.

I've been married for almost twenty-five years and have three children. Tyler is a sophomore at Gettysburg College. Corinne is a senior in high school and Brian is a sophomore.

In addition to volunteering for The One Less Foundation, I serve on the Board of Trustees of our local library.

When and how did you become involved with TOLF?

I discovered TOLF last Fall and was attracted to TOLF's mission of helping individuals develop the skills needed to lift themselves out of poverty.

In the Spring, Ingrid Shepard, TOLF's Executive Director, asked if I would provide a life Coaching course at the Outley House, home for over 250 men in Southwest Philadelphia. From May through July, I met weekly with a small group of men there to work on their goals, basic computer skills, resume writing, interviewing and inter-personal skills.

What has been the most rewarding experience you've had since volunteering with TOLF?

The life coaching course was a wonderful experience. I really enjoyed getting to know the men in the course and providing some ideas / tools that will facilitate their taking more control of their lives. The men I worked with didn't want a hand out. They wanted to work, to get their own place, to get back on their feet. But, they do need a hand up. I would encourage your readers to offer that helping hand — whether through a contribution (no matter how small) or by becoming a volunteer.

Feedback from Participants

"Every time I am going somewhere that I don't know, I use my GPS . . . it calculates the route and I follow it to my destination. Life works the same way [,] . . . I wanted to take my life places and I didn't know how to map it out. Thank God for THE ONE LESS FOUNDATION, for being the GPS that my life needed. My route is calculated and my destination (dream) is clear. With the Life Coaching program, [and] the Personal Finance Program; I am on my way to live life with purpose. In case you are wandering and need a GPS for your life, check out THE ONE LESS FOUNDATION. And I almost forget, it's FREE!"

College Bound—Prepare to Succeed Week and RISE Awards a Big Success!

Our first College Bound - Prepare to Succeed workshops took place July 22-26 for high school seniors entering college as freshmen in Fall 2013.

The event provided incoming college freshmen with information to make the transition to college smoother and help

them navigate college life successfully. Workshop topics included the basics of campus life, money management, financial aid, good study habits, and the wise use of social media.

As a culmination of our College Bound workshops and for high school seniors who participated in our Discovery and RISE mentoring program, our RISE Scholarship Dinner was held on July 26. The RISE (Reaching Independence and Success through Education) Awards

granted scholarships to graduating high school seniors starting college in Fall 2013.

In total, seven scholarships were awarded to talented students who are involved in community service, pursuing a STEM degree and those who overcame a significant hardship along the way to becoming top scholars.

Scholarships were made possible due to the generosity of donors.