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A Pipeline of Promise from Pre-K to College

Dear friends, supporters, and Coatesville community,

I am writing to share with you that I have made the decision to step out of my role as Executive Director of Coatesville Kids to College after ten years of leading the organization. This decision has not been made lightly and has come after months of prayer and hard deliberation, but I believe it is the right decision both for the organization and for me in this phase of my life. As you know, I founded CKC and it has been a passion of mine since I started it in 2013. What some of you know, but others may not, is that for the past seven years I have also been helping to develop and run another organization in Downingtown that is also committed to serving children, youth and adults who are in need of educational, emotional and spiritual support. These seven years of developing and leading both organizations has brought me great joy as both organizations have grown and have impacted many lives in positive ways. I am at a point in my life where I don't feel that I can continually lead two growing organizations simultaneously due to the demanding work that both deserve and require. Therefore, I have made the decision to take a new job that will allow me to make the same salary that I have been making from the two jobs combined, so that I can be singularly focused in my work while supporting my family. Coatesville Kids to College has had an amazing ten years of ministry serving low-income children, youth and families in the city of Coatesville, and I believe its continued success requires a leader with a singular focus who will bring new energy and ideas to the organization.

My hope and prayer as you receive this news, is that rather than seeing this as an opportunity to take a step back in your support, that you will instead lean in and bring even greater support in this season of transition so that the numerous students and families whom we are committed to through our preschool, after-school programs and summer camps can continue to receive support as they progress in their journey towards success. The organization is strong, with 14 incredible staff who remain committed to their work, with multiple community partners who provide a variety of resources and enrichment opportunities, and with a multitude of incredible supporters like you.



In this season of transition I will be working with my dear friend Steve Wilson, the CEO of the Education Equity Alliance (formerly Hope Beyond Borders) to hire a new Executive Director who has the passion and experience needed to take CKC into the next 10 years of ministry and development. CKC has operated under the covering and 501(c)3 of Education Equity Alliance since its inception, and Steve has walked with me through CKC's planning, growth and development. He is the founder of The Bridge Academy, a faith-based community center in Coatesville that just celebrated 20 years of ministry;

Educational Equity Alliance which oversees additional organizations like CKC who are committed to empowerment in Coatesville, Zambia, and Liberia; and the founder and pastor of Bridgetown Fellowship Church. Steve has vast experience in organizational development and leadership, has a deep passion for the work of CKC, and will be the interim Executive Director until a new E.D. is found. I share this so that you can be reassured that CKC is stable and will continue in very capable hands.



The children and youth whom we work with daily throughout the year are extraordinary in their brilliance, their hard work, their creativity and in the joy that they bring to all our staff. They are the reason that CKC exists and CKC belongs to them more than it does to me or any other individual. Living in an under-resourced community, they face many obstacles to their success including the challenges of poverty, lack of opportunity, and a sense of hope for the future. CKC ensures that they daily have the support and resources that they and their families need to face and overcome these obstacles so that they can reach their full God given potential. Your support has enabled us to do this work for ten successful years, and while I might be moving on, the children and youth whom we are committed to are still here and

are still in need of all the resources CKC provides. Students like Anyiah, who has been with us for 9 years and who has gone from being behind in grade level to National Honor Society and who currently works in both our entrepreneurship program and as a tutor to younger students. Her future is bright because of the partnership that CKC has made with her family to pour into her and walk with her daily, year after year. This daily commitment to walk with students and families day after day, year after year, is what makes CKC unique, and there are many more stories like Anyiah's that we have experienced and that are yet to come. We are counting on you to continue to be a part of this incredible work.



I want to thank you for being a part of what has been ten wonderful years of my life. One mistake that founders of organizations can make is staying too long, and I'm confident that this is the right time for me to step out and for new leadership to step in so that CKC can become even more than what I imagined. It has been a privilege to serve the children and youth of Coatesville with you, and I greatly appreciate the trust that you have put in me. I look forward to seeing what God does through you and the entire CKC team in this new season.

In gratitude and love,

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