

# The Inspire Spotlight

Newsletter of Inspire: A Shalom Afterschool Initiative

December  
2020

## Inspire by the Numbers

25

Students were assisted to gain access to computers and accessories!

27

Households received weekly food deliveries through Glenn Memorial UMC's Snack in a Backpack program!

100+

Students and their families received school supplies and PPE!



## Inspired to Continue Impacting the Inspire Community

The year 2020 has been a year filled with fear, uncertainty, hopelessness, stress, and unexpected outcomes. Amid the traumatic experiences taking place around the world, there has been some relief and light at the end of the tunnel as we close out the year. Some of us learned new ways of living and being while others simply survived the year...which is more than enough. At Inspire, we both learned new ways to engage our community and WE SURVIVED THE YEAR 2020! We learned just how flexible we are when we adjusted our program services without time to prepare and served our Inspire community based on their highest priority needs. This year we were able to continue our mission and reflect what it means to provide holistic development. We were challenged to operate outside of our normal program services and find unique and impactful ways to care for our community.

Given the COVID-19 circumstances, Inspire only planned to remain in regular communication with our students and families remotely through verbal and virtual check-ins. We pushed our limits starting back in April and were able to reassess the community needs, make sure students received printed homework material and provided school supplies to address the limited access to technology and supplies needed to complete virtual learning assignments. We provided snacks and supplemental food support information and delivery to address food insecurity, and face masks for students and family members to minimize infection and spread of COVID-19. During the fall semester of the 2020-2021 school year, we provided technology assistance to students to ensure everyone received a school-issued computer and gained access to virtual learning content at home. We began our first virtual tutoring service which offered weekly homework support to students from volunteers. We launched a new partnership with [Glenn Memorial United Methodist Church](#), joining their [Snack in a Backpack program](#) to provide weekly pick-up and delivery services of shelf stable and fresh food to all current Inspire students and their families including some alumni students. Also, we provided regular deliveries of school supplies, personal protective equipment (PPE) and COVID-19 education to students and their families. These activities allowed us to stay connected to the Inspire community as planned and we safely stretched our limits to do as much as possible with the resources available. *[continued on back...]*



**INSPIRE**  
a shalom afterschool initiative

## Inspire to continue impacting the Inspire Community continued...

As always, we are inspired by our resilient students and their families and this year we are inspired by our program outcomes during a pandemic. We did not know how much we could stretch our services and capacity until we were presented with the challenges of 2020. We found will-power, fulfillment, hope, and even joy in our service this year. We are all survivors. We are grateful for every single member of our community. This year has highlighted the value of every human life and the importance of community. Our community is at the center of our work and we are inspired to continue impacting the Inspire and Clarkston community.

As much as the community needs Inspire, Inspire needs its community to continue to address the academic, social, emotional, and practical needs of our students and their families. Our volunteers, partners, donors, and friends understand the importance of creating and sustaining change in small and big ways to impact the lives of our youth. Your gift will help our students sharpen their talents, develop their interests, and discover a love for learning! Your support will give Inspire students a safe space, activities to channel their energy, and the academic support they need to catch up. Your gift will give them a better today and make possible a better future. As we experience and see the tremendous and daily loss throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, we understand that we have a long fight ahead of us. From health and wellness to economic effects and increased gaps in education, we will need to support and empower each other through the unknown. Thank you, on behalf of these incredible young people, for giving what you can to support the Inspire community. No gift is too small. Happy Holidays from Inspire!

In service,

*T. Ogunjobi*

Teni-Ola Ogunjobi  
Director



### Your Support Makes the Difference

**\$2,000**

**Sponsor one student**  
for the entire school  
year

**\$8**

Provide one student  
with **snacks**  
for one month

**\$250**

Ensure **translation & interpretation** are  
available for family  
engagement

**\$250**

Make possible  
**food & PPE delivery**  
for one month

**\$85**

Provide one student  
with **supplies** for the  
year

**\$100**

Ensure safe, reliable  
**transportation** for all  
students for one  
month

### How to Donate

*All donations are tax-deductible.*

**ONLINE:** Visit

<http://bit.ly/GiveToInspireAfterschool>

**CHECK** (our preferred method):

Make checks out to **"Inspire"**

Mail checks to:

Inspire: A Shalom Afterschool Initiative  
c/o New Church Development Commission  
1024 Ponce de Leon Ave. NE  
Atlanta, GA 30306

**SUPPLIES:**



Check out our

to donate specific items we need by

visiting: <http://bit.ly/InspireAmazonWishList>

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To See Photos, Visit:  
[www.facebook.com/inspireafterschool](http://www.facebook.com/inspireafterschool)



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