

December 2019

With your help, Simon Peter O'Hanlon's legacy will continue.

Dear DAA Ambassadors and Supporters:

In 2010 Co-founder Simon Peter's hard work creating a nonprofit paid off. The Denver Achievement Academy (DAA) was recognized to operate as a nonprofit organization in Colorado. The application was submitted in the spring of 2010 and a few short months later, DAA set things in motion to provide unique opportunities for underserved youth in the Denver community.

Simon and I worked tirelessly to develop partnerships that allowed DAA to offer a dedicated area for afterschool studies and instruction. Once school assignments were complete, students participated handball, racquetball, basketball, boxing, bowling, kayaking swimming and Taekwondo. Over the summer DAA students participated in a six-week math bootcamp program. Our students improved math scores and, in many instances, increased proficiency by at least one grade level.

Simon's dedication to mentoring with a focus on leadership development meant so much to our students and their families. Participation in DAA activities kept students engaged in school and motivated to achieve at high levels. In 2018, twenty DAA students graduated from high school. Over 90 percent of our graduates went on to continue their education in higher education settings. Graduates went on to colleges and universities including A & M University, CU Denver, Langford University, Metro state University and Texas Southern University, to name a few.

DAA enjoys the service of outstanding board members and volunteers who have supported efforts to uphold Simon's legacy and his explicit request to keep DAA alive. As a result of their efforts DAA is an active nonprofit in Colorado meeting requirements to maintain current records and status. Our website is being updated, key partnerships are being refreshed and students are poised to begin unique sports activities in January of 2020.

It takes heroic efforts to run a nonprofit and we need for **you** to be a **hero** and help sustain a legacy. A gift of \$250.00 opens the door for a student to enjoy Taekwondo, kayaking and a math boot camp program. Early next year students will embark upon their DAA journey, a great way to start a new decade.

Your generosity allows Denver Achievement Academy to offer programming for underserved youth from neighborhoods throughout the city. Because of **you**, our students benefit from at least 90 minutes of tutoring per week focused on completing their homework, they participate in three different sports-for-life each year, they help others through our community service opportunities, and they have the option of joining our math boot camp over the summer.

Your gift makes a difference. Join us in transforming the lives of our kids. Please, share with our students **YOUR** gift of \$50, \$100, \$250, \$500, or \$ _____ (donate at one of the levels listed or present the amount you're comfortable donating). Click the donate button below - It takes about **five** minutes to begin to transform the lives of deserving kids. **Thank you** for joining us on our journey to provide after school enrichment continuing Simon's legacy.

Sincerely yours for the kids,

Cindy Van Cise / Co-Founder

Your gift helps our students to have more choices and opportunities in life!

Young people need models . . .

John Wooden

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