

# 75 years of making a difference



a heritage of service. a future of action



**NORTH  
LIGHT**  
COMMUNITY CENTER

Changing Lives.  
Changing Communities.

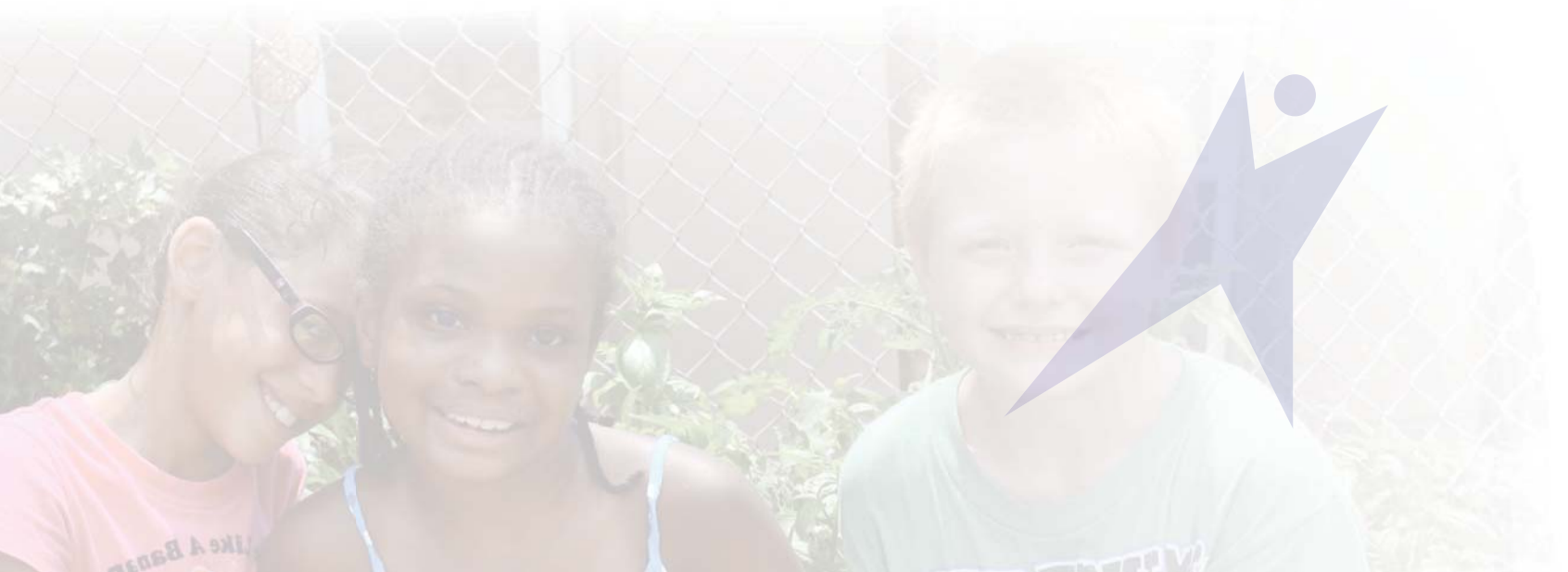
## About North Light Community Center

North Light Community Center is committed to improving the lives of children, strengthening families, and enriching the community through programs that benefit individuals and champion empowerment. North Light provides a nurturing environment for children to learn and play, teens to expand their horizons, and adults to seek counsel and emergency assistance.

Each year North Light:

- Serves more than 3,000 community members in the Philadelphia neighborhoods of Manayunk, Roxborough, Wissahickon, and beyond
- Provides more than 900 people in need with food through the food cupboard, Friends in Supplying Help (FISH)
- Delivers 8,600 hours of service with 600 volunteers

Motivated by a committed and compassionate board of directors, a dedicated staff and talented pool of volunteers, North Light has a proud 75-year tradition of spearheading vital community organizing and development initiatives.



Letter from the President of the Board of Directors

## North Light Community Center: 1936 to 2011 and Beyond

Since 1936, North Light has made a critical difference in our neighborhoods by becoming a focus of community life and a meeting place for diverse community activities. We've made a difference for so many through an understanding that the well-being of family and community is essential to the success of our children.

North Light embodies a sense of optimism about the potential of every child in the community. In fact, every person who walks through North Light's door, whether it's for food or a great program for a child, is met with that same optimism and respect.

One of the qualities that distinguishes North Light is its flexibility—the ability to respond to the changing needs of the community while remaining true to its mission. For example, we've recently seen a dramatic rise in the use of the food cupboard. North Light responded to that need and, in fact, was recognized as one of the best food cupboards in the region.

Some of North Light's accomplishments since the last annual report include:

- A new youth-led urban farm program, Teens 4 Good, which has grown from a 1,600 square-foot garden to a half-acre urban farm at the Schuylkill Center for Environmental Education
- In cooperation with Roxborough High School, the Urban Sustainability Leadership Academy (USLA) has become a business model for after-school workforce development programs
- The designation of North Light as a favored food cupboard (and one of the best food cupboards) in the region by Philabundance
- The continuation of three donor-supported scholarship programs that provided nearly \$620,000 in tuition assistance to 56 local families

In a difficult economic climate, North Light has weathered the challenges of obtaining the funding we need to continue to serve the community. And while other organizations similar to ours have shut their doors, North Light has survived, in part, because the community response has kept us strong.

North Light was founded with a tremendous sense of optimism. And for 75 years, that optimism has sustained us. In our 76th year and beyond, we look forward to doing even more and becoming even stronger.

*Janet*

– Janet Fetkewicz



# North Light Programs

## Children's Programs

North Light offers state licensed school-aged childcare programs year round for approximately 150 children (pre-K to 6<sup>th</sup> grades) with the KidZone after-school and Summer Day Camp programs. These programs prioritize education, the arts, and developing life skills with homework assistance, academic enrichment, tutoring and exposure to cultural, sports, and artistic activities. Our programs promote early education, smooth transitions from elementary to middle school, and help decrease high school dropouts.

### KidZone

KidZone provides high-quality, affordable educational after-school care for students in pre-K to 6th grade. The program includes:

- Homework assistance
- Sports, arts and crafts, reading, computers, and more
- Nutritional snack

### Summer Day Camp

North Light operates an energetic, educational full-day summer camp for children 3 to 12 years old.

## Teen Programs

### Youth Encouragement Program (YEP)

YEP engages more than 400 youth, ages 12-18, with year-round programs that provide academic support, mentoring, civic engagement, leadership training, athletics, and life and workforce readiness skills. These programs help students stay and achieve in school, while preparing them for college and career success. YEP is offered in-school, after-school and during the summer.

### Summer Career Exploration Program (SCEP)

SCEP has provided summer jobs, career counseling and mentoring to over 1,000 teens since its inception in 1982. In addition to developing worksites where youth are mentored and gain work experience, SCEP provides participants with pre-employment training followed by supportive services to maximize their opportunities for success on the job. SCEP also helps make the connection between high school success and post-secondary education. Participants are introduced to various career clusters and their educational requirements. Field trips to visit college campuses include the opportunity to speak with a financial aid officer.

A long-term impact study of SCEP alumni from 2003-2011 showed that:

- 99% graduated high school
- 90% are currently in post-secondary educational institutions
- 93% of the high school graduates are in college or have graduated college
- 74% are currently working in part or full-time jobs

### Teens 4 Good (T4G)

Teens 4 Good is an urban farm program that operates a half-acre farm at the Schuylkill Center for Environmental Education and a 1,600 square-foot plot in Gorgas Park, Roxborough. In a single growing season, T4G harvested more than 3,500 pounds of produce, which was sold at the Roxborough Shoprite and other retail outlets.

Teens take leadership roles and are involved in all aspects of the venture, from planting and harvesting to packaging, delivering goods, managing finances and marketing their products. About 10% of the harvest is donated to North Light's food cupboard.

### Urban Sustainability Leadership Academy (USLA)

The USLA program offers a year-round entrepreneurship curriculum that pairs students with paid internships and service learning opportunities. The program helps Roxborough High School students build core skills, including proficiency in workplace competencies, while encouraging post-secondary enrollment. Nearly 80% of North Light's USLA students graduated high school on time and were accepted to post-secondary institutions, compared to the Philadelphia School District average four year graduation rate of 65%, with 35% enrolling in post-secondary institutions.



North Light is a member of the Federation of Neighborhood Centers.

Teens 4 Good and the Urban Sustainability Leadership Academy are programs developed and managed by the Federation of Neighborhood Centers.

## Emergency Services Programs

### Friends in Supplying Help (FISH)

FISH provides food to more than 900 individuals annually. Through FISH, North Light distributes nonperishable food, vouchers to local supermarkets, and fresh produce to families who need it most.

Through a partnership with ShopRite and Philabundance, North Light has access to the Greater Philadelphia Food Bank and receives support from over 40 faith-based organizations, schools, businesses and individuals, as well as Villanova University, and Whole Foods.

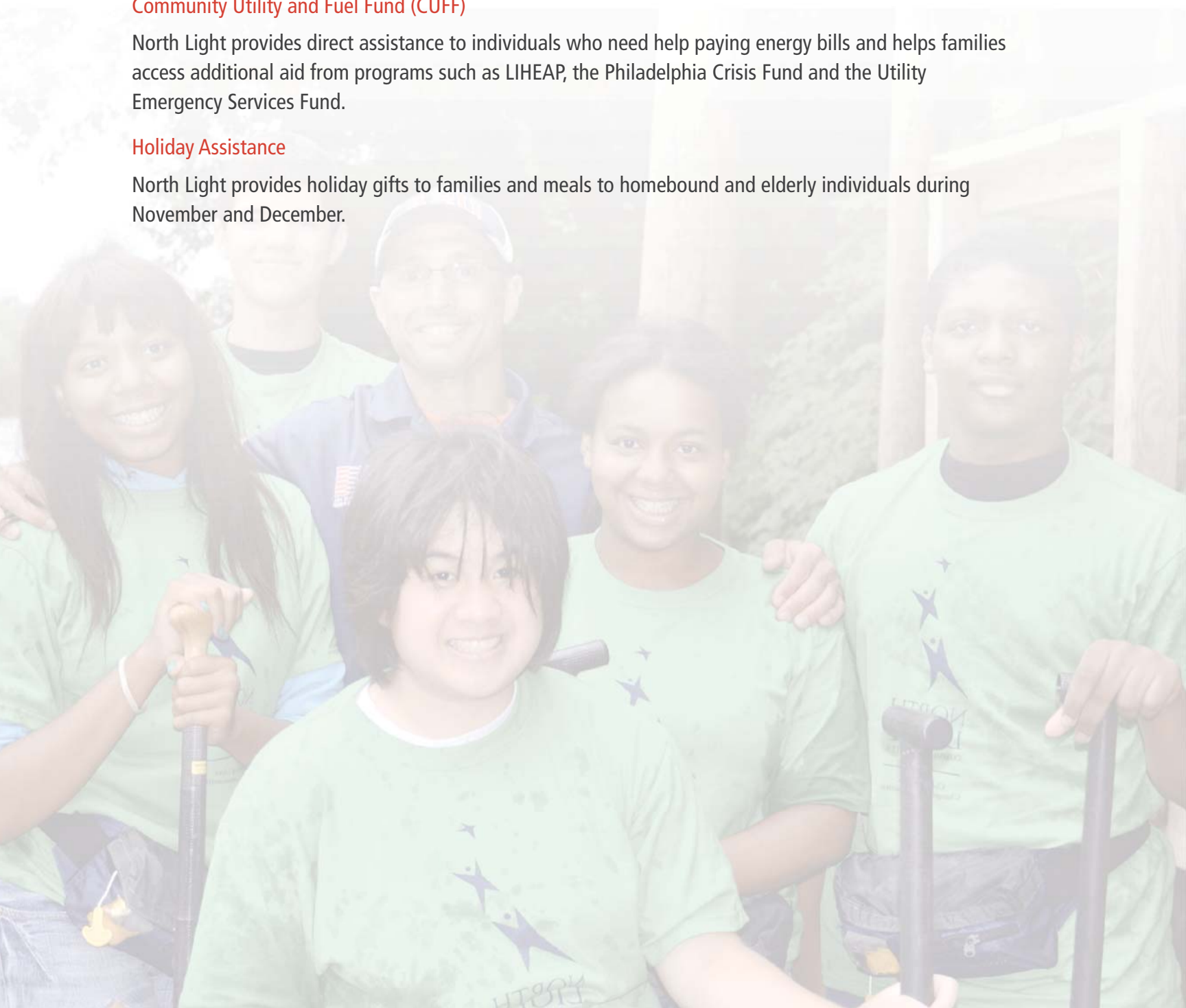
Fresh-grown produce from our Teens 4 Good urban farm and collaborations with Saul Agricultural School, Weaver's Way Food Co-op and City Harvest increase the amount of fresh produce provided to FISH participants, and help community residents learn how to prepare nourishing recipes.

### Community Utility and Fuel Fund (CUFF)

North Light provides direct assistance to individuals who need help paying energy bills and helps families access additional aid from programs such as LIHEAP, the Philadelphia Crisis Fund and the Utility Emergency Services Fund.

### Holiday Assistance

North Light provides holiday gifts to families and meals to homebound and elderly individuals during November and December.



## Educational Support Programs

### Scholarship Programs

Through funds provided by private donors, North Light administers three scholarship programs that currently support educational costs for 20 local residents from elementary school through post-graduate schools:

- Neducsin "Spirit of Manayunk" college scholarship fund for students attending college
- Becky Nast Scholarship Fund for students attending John W. Hallahan Catholic Girls' High School
- Neducsin Community Scholarship Fund for students attending independent schools in grades 1 to 12

### Tutoring

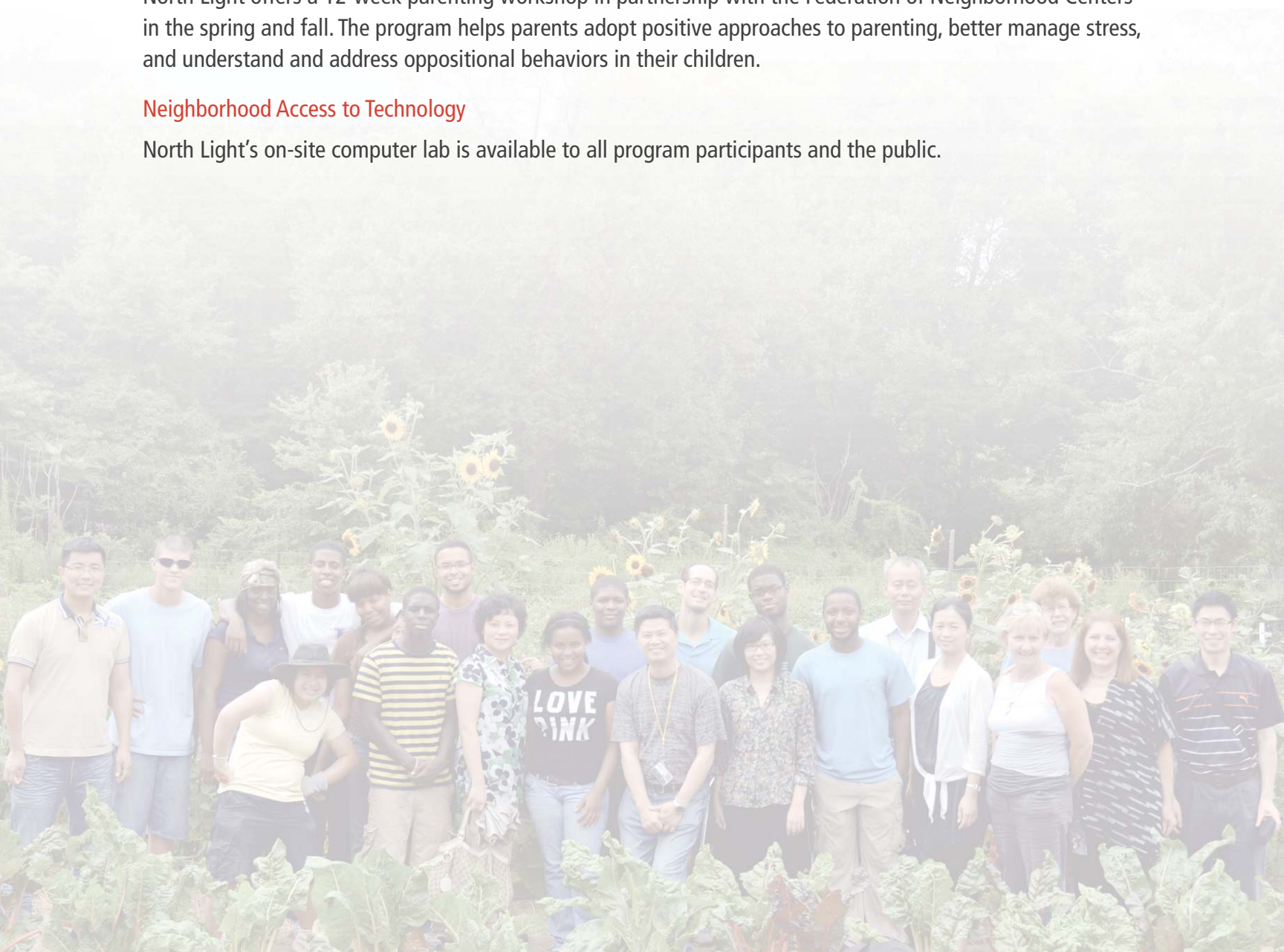
North Light offers fee-based tutoring for children and youth in elementary and secondary school in a variety of subjects including foreign languages and SAT prep. Certified teachers and college students assist each participant in a small group setting or one-on-one.

### Parent Empowering Program

North Light offers a 12-week parenting workshop in partnership with the Federation of Neighborhood Centers in the spring and fall. The program helps parents adopt positive approaches to parenting, better manage stress, and understand and address oppositional behaviors in their children.

### Neighborhood Access to Technology

North Light's on-site computer lab is available to all program participants and the public.



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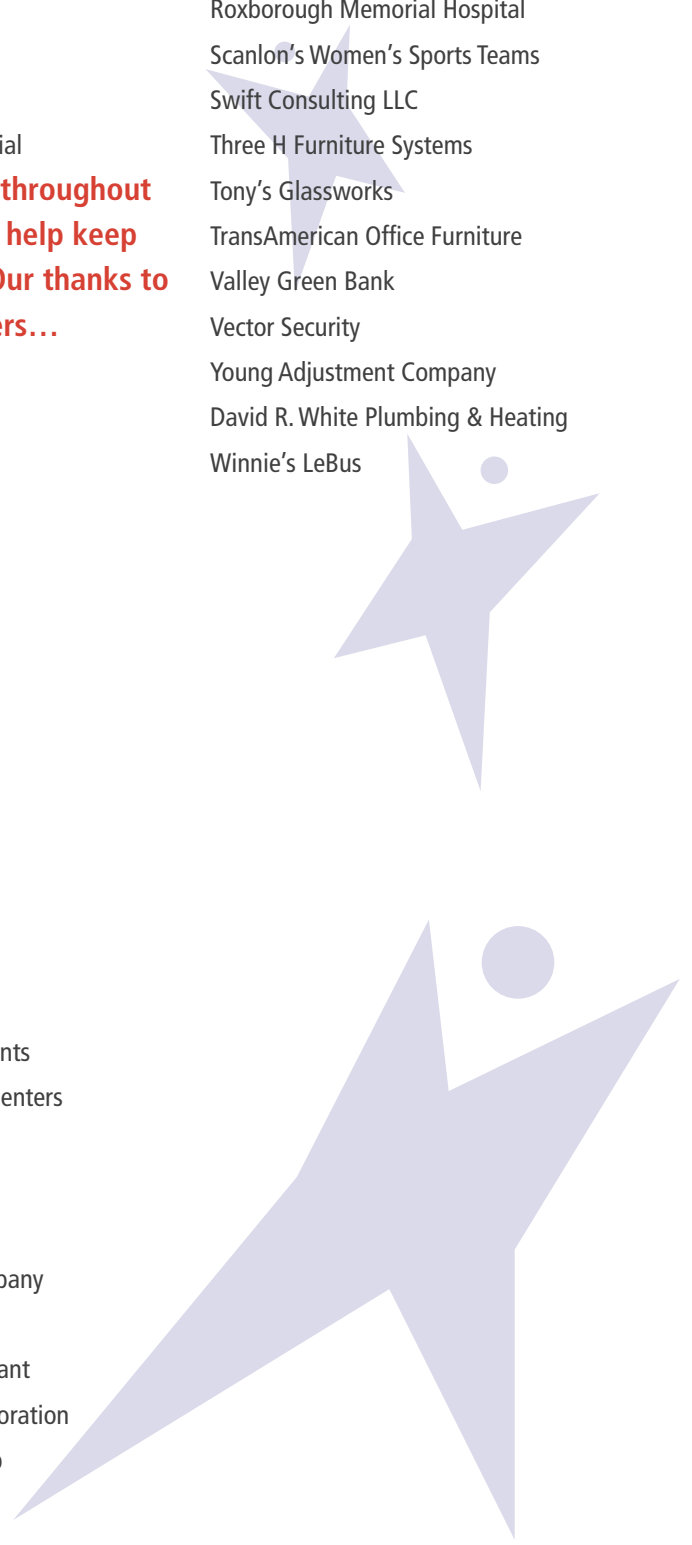
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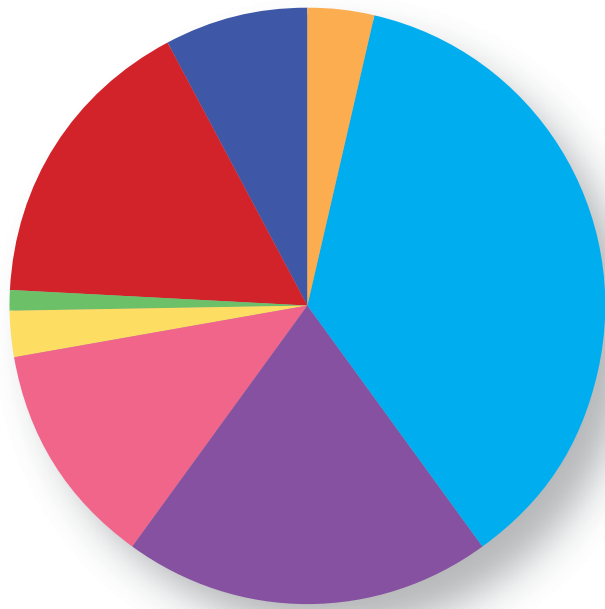
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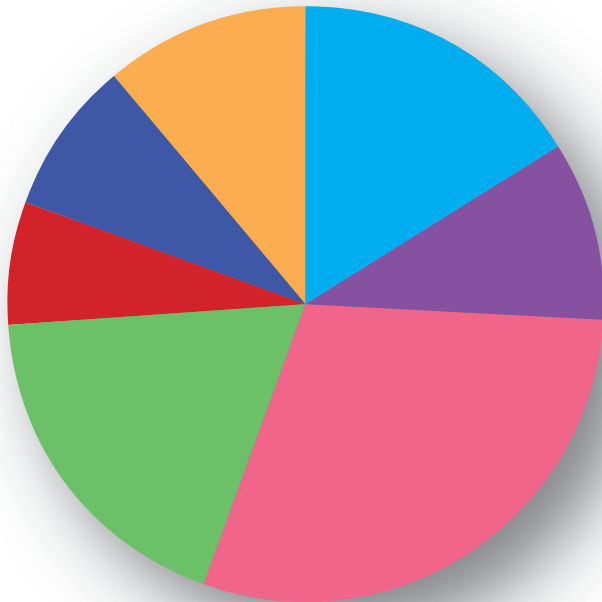


# 2010-2011 Financials



- Foundation Grants
- Contributions from Individuals
- Fee for Service Contracts
- Corporate Gifts
- Government Grants
- Program Revenue
- Fundraising Events
- Investment Earnings

**Total Income: \$947,024**



- Workforce Development
- Educational Supports
- School Age Child Care
- Emergency & Social Supports
- Recreation & Community Building
- Management & General
- Fundraising

**Total Expenses: \$936,510**

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