BUILDING ON A 40 YEAR LEGACY

2017 ANNUAL REPORT
OUR VISION IS THAT CITIES ACROSS
THE WORLD WILL BE TRANSFORMED
INTO PLACES OF SHALOM, FULFILLING
ZECHARIAH’S VISION WHERE “MEN AND
WOMEN OF RIPE OLD AGE WILL SIT IN
THE STREETS...EACH WITH CANE IN
HAND,” AND WHERE “CITY STREETS
WILL BE FILLED WITH BOYS AND GIRLS
PLAYING THERE.”

—ZECHARIAH 8:4-5
As a vital supporter of Leadership Foundations, it is our sincere pleasure to be offering our thanks, introducing the 2017 Annual Report, and sharing some exciting things on the horizon. We were asked to write this letter because, as the first president and first board chair of Leadership Foundations (LF), it was imagined that we might have an interesting perspective to share with all of you.

**“WE OFTEN HAD TO CONVINCE PEOPLE OF THE REALITY OF SUCH A LOFTY GOAL, LOVING A CITY INTO GREATNESS”**

We want to begin by saying how delighted we are to see how LF has continued to mature and become a well-defined force for good in cities around the world. However, and this is important to note, it was not always so. The early days in the movement had much more to do with inspiration than instruction, dynamism over definition, and energy in lieu of evaluation. The evolution that LF has undergone over the years, it should be added, are developments that were not only needed but should be roundly applauded. Equally encouraging for those of us who have been around a while is how LF has made these significant advances while holding on to what made the movement special in the first place: a Christ-centered and inclusive focus, a high value on humor that engenders trust, and the power of relationships.

We remember those early gatherings well. The agenda wasn’t always clear, many of us were divided about strategy, and we were always wrestling with the perennial struggle around financing an intermediary organization. And yet what kept us together was our absolute conviction that with Jesus at the center, we had something to say about whether our cities and communities would flourish.

Another remarkable thing was that amid difficult conversations and a multitude of starts and stops, we were given the grace of a sense of humor. In short, we laughed hard, uproariously, and often with abandon. This value of humor became a kind of adhesive that kept us together and drew us back time and again.

Finally, the power of relationship and friendship proved essential. While the future was uncertain—and we often had to convince people of the reality of such a lofty goal, loving a city into greatness—we did know this: Because of Jesus, we were friends who would commit ourselves to each other, LF, and the world around us for the rest of our lives. We knew that somehow, in some way, this would make a difference. What we have seen over the past decades has made this a reality: an organization that has stayed faithful to these tenets and continuously strengthened itself in the pursuit of transforming cities around the world.

In conclusion, we are beyond thrilled that in its 40th Anniversary Capital Campaign, LF has decided to honor our relationship and vision with the creation of the Colangelo Carpenter Innovation Center. It is an honor that overwhelms us and draws us further into LF as it enters into this new and exciting venture. Thank you for your part in supporting this extraordinary organization committed to seeing cities become God’s playgrounds.
WHERE WE WORK

AFRICA
Bloemfontein, South Africa
Nairobi, Kenya
 Pretoria, South Africa

ASIA
Bangalore, India
Manila, Philippines
New Delhi, India

CENTRAL AMERICA/ CARIBBEAN
Guatemala City, Guatemala

Dayton, Ohio
Des Moines, Iowa
Eugene, Oregon
Fresno, California
Georgetown, Kentucky
Grand Rapids, Michigan
Immokalee, Florida
Jackson, Mississippi
Jacksonville, Florida
Knoxville, Tennessee
Lewiston, Maine
Lexington, Kentucky
Louisville, Kentucky
Memphis, Tennessee
Minneapolis, Minnesota
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Philippi, West Virginia
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Portland, Oregon
Salt Lake City, Utah
Savannah, Georgia
Seattle, Washington
S sito, California
Tacoma, Washington
Wilmington, North Carolina

1987
Ray Bakke becomes an important voice in Leadership Foundations, providing a rich sociological, anthropological, and theological framework for taking on the social and spiritual transformation of cities.

1989
Local Leadership Foundations begin to share best practices and programs across the network. This begins with Operation Starting Line, a prisoner reentry program, and grows to include everything from youth mentoring programs to housing initiatives.

LF WHEEL OF CHANGE
ENGAGING LEADERS OF GOOD FAITH AND GOOD WILL
We move isolated individuals to collaborative engagement

BUILDING THE CAPACITY OF OTHERS
We move under-resourced work to empowered action

DEVELOPING JOINT INITIATIVES
We move independent efforts to collective impact

Leadership Foundations dedicates itself to the social and spiritual renewal of cities around the world. Our network of Local Leadership Foundations (LLFs) commits to their communities for the long-term, helping to see them become more like playgrounds.

The scope and scale of this pursuit demand an equally robust theory of change. The LF wheel of change, supported by the data-driven Stages of Impact (SOI) Platform, meets this need. Based on over 35 years of field-tested work, the wheel of change is made up of three functions: engaging leaders of good faith and good will, building the capacity of others, and developing joint initiatives. As these functions are used together, over time, cities do in fact get better.

One of the remarkable qualities of the wheel of change and SOI Platform is the ability to take cities as different as Pretoria and Pittsburgh, Billings and Bangalore, and through a common framework and dataset, provide a roadmap for LLFs to deepen their organizational impact and focus on what is working to improve their cities. These tools support LF’s belief that cities are living, breathing organisms that demand both a proven approach and a contextual response.

In the pages that follow, you will read how the wheel of change has been operationalized in a multitude of ways to take on the unique needs of our member cities. As Leadership Foundations invests in each of our 41 Local Leadership Foundations, ultimately this creates real impact in real lives, making cities more like playgrounds.
A CATALYST FOR CHANGE

Catalyst Leadership Foundation was founded in 2007, born out of Abhishek Gier’s transformational experience in one of Delhi’s poorest areas. In the midst of the severe poverty, Abhishek also encountered an abundance of grace as he built relationships with the children of that neighborhood. This is where the Kingdom of God, in all of its sharp-edged glory, truly exists, and so he and his wife, Angelika, responded to Jesus’ call to seek justice, defend the oppressed, and take up the cause of the orphaned—regardless of the consequences.

The big idea was that Catalyst would partner with local leaders to engage neighborhoods like the one Abhishek and Angelika first encountered in order to make changes from the grassroots up: a unique approach within the caste system of Delhi. There exists in Delhi a deep abyss between the wealthy and the poor, and this is further complicated by the fact that there are very few bridges by which to make meaningful connections. Catalyst identified this lack of connection—from the upper-to-middle-classes to the most vulnerable—was one of the primary factors contributing to Delhi’s profound lack of health. With this in mind, Catalyst formed projects ranging from mentoring to education to housing to job placement, all with the idea of connecting a disconnected city. One of these bridges built by Catalyst and its partners rescues girls and women from a life of poverty and trafficking and provides everything from education to employment opportunities to a supportive community—offering these women and girls possibilities and hope for their future that previously would have been unthinkable.

Searching for a way to build organizational capacity and drive further change in their city, in 2008, Catalyst became a member of the LF network. Abhishek visited Local Leadership Foundations to see the LF wheel of change in action and began working with his Senior Associate on a monthly basis. A decade later, Abhishek describes the LF approach as exactly the tonic Delhi needs: a focus on leadership, support from a global community, and an emphasis on working together to address a city’s greatest challenges. As a result of this journey, Abhishek now coaches others as an LF Senior Associate with a focus on new Local Leadership Foundations in Southeast Asia.

Beginning with seeing grace in street children to now sharing his work as a Senior Associate, Abhishek is one of the reasons LF is confident that cities are becoming God’s playgrounds. Together, through hard work and a commitment to each other and the wheel of change, Catalyst and the rest of the LF network are driving change and seeing transformation in their cities.

“I HAVE OFTEN BEEN ASKED WHY CATALYST JOINED THE LEADERSHIP FOUNDATIONS ... SIMPLE ANSWER: LEADERSHIP FOUNDATIONS UNDERSTANDS THE POWER OF RELATIONSHIP TO EACH OTHER AND THE CITIES WE SERVE.”
—ABHISHEK GIER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CATALYST LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION

NETWORK IMPACT

Stages of Impact Platform—Custom tool that provides data for LF Presidents to use in加深 organizational impact and expand mastery of LF’s three signature functions
• 95% of Local Leadership Foundations completed the SOI
• 27% of Local Leadership Foundations accredited using the new SOI process

Global Youth Initiative—Five strategies that seek to address the need for mentoring and leadership development among urban youth across the world
• 30 Local Leadership Foundations participated
• 57 hours of training and customized coaching to each organization
• 3,084 youth served through the Global Youth Initiative

“DELHI IS BETTER AS A RESULT OF BEING SERVED BY CATALYST LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION.”
—Abhishek Gier, Executive Director, Catalyst Leadership Foundation
LF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ANTHONY BROWN
Head of Client Engagement
Discovery MD

STEVEN CARROLL
Chief Financial Officer
Reserch Tree

TIM CLARK
Executive Director
Tribune, Inc.

Doug Davidson
(Senior) Sales & Marketing
Advisory Team

RANDAL DREW
Chairman & CEO
FARC Management, LLC

JACK FORTIN (Chair)
Senior Fellow, Chairman
Center for Education
Auburn College

ABHISHEK GIER
Executive Director
Cadence Leadership Foundation

WILSON GOODE SR.
(Wilson)
President
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SCOTT LEWIS
Chief Executive Officer
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WILLIAM MELLIKEN
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SHERI PATILLO
Wine Consultant & Educator
Vinettes, LLC

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President
ACE International

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Memories for Leadership Regional Coach

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KEVIN FEIDER
Director of Communications

JOHN GEAR
Global Youth Initiative Director

MELISSA MONROE
Administrative Manager

MELODY RODRIGUEZ
Project M2F Director

BIANCA SINGLETON
Memories for Leadership Regional Coach

ALMA VARGAS
Project M2F Youth Development Specialist

CORNELIUS WILLIAMS
Memories for Leadership Regional Coach

1993
The Council of Leadership Foundations is formed as a 501(c)3 to coordinate training and facilitate connections and prayer among the network. The Leadership Foundations model also begins to spread globally beginning in Pretoria, South Africa, and quickly spreading to other cities in Africa as well as India, Central America, and the Caribbean.

1996
The LF Accreditation process, developed by John Illit, a retired Marine Corps general and former college president, brings a new level of discipline, direction, and development to the LF network and membership process.
LF LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

KEVIN ATKISSON
Co-Founder & Managing Partner
Bluegrass Capital Advisors

BRYAN BARBY
President
Barby Consulting, LLC

COLIN BROOKS
Vice President
Morgan Stanley

SHERMAN BROWN
Chairman & Chief Executive Officer
Three Media Group

REID CARPENTER
Founder
Leadership Foundations

JERRY COLANGELO
Founding LF Board Chair
Chairman
Nashville Memorial Basketball
Hall of Fame & National Italian American Foundation

JACQUES DELLU PAOLI
LFCC Co-Chair & Consultant
Whitebridge International, LLC

NADJA FIDELIA
Founding Member
Elide Capital, Division of The Williams Capital Group, L.P.

WILLIAM HUTTON
Chief Executive Officer
JM Entrepreneurial
Excellence, LLC

DALE IRVIN
President & Professor of World Christianity
New York Theological Seminary

DICK JOHNSON
Founder
World Vision Gift-to-Kid
Distribution Center

BETSY MCCORMACK
Retired American Professional Tennis Player

COLVIN MCRADY
Chief Executive Officer
Im责编 & McCrady

OBIE MCKENZIE
Managing Director of Global Client Group
BlackRock

AMY MCLAIR LARSON
Assistant City Attorney
City of Seattle

KM MOY
Senior VP of Strategic &
Applied Forecasting
Mastercraft

NICHOLAS SENSLEY
Chief Executive Officer
Cross Sector Solutions, LLC

NATE SKOW
LF Brand Member
& LFCC Co-chair

H. SPEES
Director of Strategic Initiatives
Office of the Mayor, City of Fresno

DAVID TUPPIN
Educator
Haynes Academy

RALPH VEERMAN
President & Chief Executive Officer
Youth & Associates

DAVID WARD
Chief Operating Officer
Alien Capital Partners

ANGIE WINN
President
Wise Education Development

SCOTT ZUFETALO
Vice President of Philanthropy
Nashville Memorial Basketball
Hall of Fame

The Leadership Council is a group of leaders who endorse the vision and mission of Leadership Foundations. Leadership Council members serve as ambassadors by opening doors of support within their networks, attend gatherings throughout the year, provide advice and expert assistance, and make an annual investment in Leadership Foundations. For more information on the Leadership Council, contact Dave Gillis at dgillis@leadershipfoundations.org.

“LF has captured my heart with its vision of viewing global communities as God’s playgrounds. The intentional framework, processes, and evaluation metrics provide concrete ways to equip spiritual leaders to multiply this vision. Leveraging these support services, LF prepares a community of colleagues from around the world that supports and prays together for their respective communities. As a Leadership Council member, I am deeply encouraged by the unique and inviting environment LF has created to drive substantial impact in cities around the world.”

— Nadja Fidelia, Founding Member,
Eiland Capital: Division of The Williams Capital Group, L.P.

2002

As the network grows, more formalized support and structure are needed. Leadership Foundations of America is created with the purpose of developing, strengthening, and sustaining local Leadership Foundations for the social and spiritual renewal of cities. Reid Carpenter is elected as the president, and Jerry Colangelo becomes the first board chair.

2003

The Four City Demonstration project, a capacity-building initiative funded through a $3 million U.S. Department of Health and Human Services grant, launches. LF will go on to receive over $44 million for network-wide capacity-building and mentoring initiatives from HRSA and the U.S. Department of Justice.
MINISTRY & BUSINESS: A “BOTH/AND” APPROACH

When Lisa Slayton stepped in as President of Pittsburgh Leadership Foundation (PLF), she was following not just one but two long-serving leaders. Reid Carpenter, who founded PLF in 1978, handed the baton to Dr. John Stahl-Wert in 2003, who, in turn, handed the baton to Lisa in 2013, making her only the third president in PLF’s 34-year history.

As PLF continues to take on this large vision for its city, Lisa believes that being a part of Leadership Foundations strengthens PLF’s work significantly. The LF theory of change takes context seriously.

“THERE ARE FEW ORGANIZATIONS, IF ANY AT ALL, THAT ALLOW FOR A GLOBAL VISION WITH LOCAL VERACITY. LEADERSHIP FOUNDATIONS GIVES ME THE ABILITY TO MOVE AWAY FROM THIS FALSE DICHOTOMY AND COMMIT TO BOTH WITH EQUAL PASSION.”

— LISA SLAYTON, PRESIDENT, PITTSBURGH LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION

Like her predecessors, Lisa’s fingerprint on PLF and her city has been unique. While remaining committed to loving the city of Pittsburgh, Lisa has a particular passion for helping business leaders integrate their faith life and vocation. This vision came about working in the corporate world, where she realized many of her colleagues had a deep desire to connect with other leaders, build relationships, and dream together about how to effectively leverage their business skills and shared values across the city for its betterment. Under Lisa’s leadership, PLF created the Leaders Collaborative (LC) with the idea that if the participants saw their work as ministry, an indelible impact would be made in the lives of their employees and, ultimately, the city of Pittsburgh. The LC does just that; it helps leaders use their God-given skills, training, and experience to find the place where passion meets need in the city. Through the LC, leaders from across city sectors spend six months together being coached in the power of not only allowing but embracing PLF’s unique model. The LF Accreditation process made a series of recommendations to sustain and build a viable organization. The Senior Associate strategy, where Lisa not only receives coaching from a Senior Associate but also serves as one, provides practical support, strategies, and fellowship with like-minded leaders. These kinds of services are replicated throughout the LF global network as leaders like Lisa and their organizations dream about their cities and drive the wheel of change to see them improved.

NETWORK IMPACT

Senior Associates—LF veteran leaders who coach each of our Local Leadership Foundation Presidents
- 22 Senior Associates
- Received 58.5 hours of training from Leadership Foundations
- Provided 600+ hours of personalized coaching to LLF Presidents

The $3.2 MILLION Leadership Foundations budget leverages a further $39.7 MILLION through the LF global network.
- 41 Local Leadership Foundations
- 870 staff
- 1,362 partner organizations
- 17,821 volunteers
- 34 cities interested in becoming LLFs

“BEING A PART OF LF ALLOWS US TO BE RIGHTEOUS CONTEXTUALIZED IN THE CITY WE LOVE, WHILE ALSO FOLLOWING A CALL TO CARE FOR CITIES AROUND THE WORLD.”

— Lisa Slayton, President, Pittsburgh Leadership Foundation
2017 FINANCIALS

REVENUE: $2,262,742
- 35% Individuals: $789,538
- 39% Grants, Governmental Agencies: $892,544
- 4% Board: $84,667
- 3% Membership Dues: $61,225
- 18% Special Purpose: $404,566
- 1% Earned Income: $29,402

EXPENSE: $2,271,694
- 28% Program: Baseline Services: $642,568
- 52% Program: Ancillary Services: $1,189,763
- 10% Fundraising: $222,544
- 9% General/Administration: $209,239

“Leadership Foundations stands out not simply for their heroic mission to transform cities into playgrounds, a noble and inspiring vision, but also their commitment to act only in accordance with practices that bring about long-term sustainable change. LF is comfortable balancing the tension of being an organization with unquestionably lofty ambitions, coupled with and grounded in a commitment to operate only in accordance with strategic, proven methods for driving the type of change our communities need.”

— David Turpin, Educator, Heritage School

HOW YOUR GIFT MADE A DIFFERENCE IN 2017

Your gift makes an impact in the lives of leaders and in the health of cities around the world. It made a difference for people like Abhishak, Lisa, Jean-Claude, and Marie, and it is vital to the long-term transformation of the 40+ LF member cities. Because of your faithful giving and generous partnership, we are able to develop leaders who drive the wheel of permanent change in cities around the world.

As a result of our global network, your investment in Leadership Foundations goes further. In fact, our annual budget of $3.2 million is multiplied over 10 times through our members for a total of $32.7 million. This number represents real impact in real lives, resulting in cities getting better.

IN 2017...

- You helped 41 CITIES DEVELOP A PLAN to deepen their impact through our Stages of Impact Platform.
- You helped equip 52 SENIOR ASSOCIATES WITH TRAINING to become increasingly effective coaches and mentors for each of our member cities.
- You helped 15 BOARDS BECOME HEALTHIER AND MORE EFFECTIVE through our Board Training Initiative.
- You helped 469 ORGANIZATIONS RECEIVE CAPACITY-BUILDING SUPPORT.
- You helped 3,004 YOUTH RECEIVE MENTORING AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT through our Global Youth Initiative.

2008

Dave Hillis becomes president and changes the organization’s name to Leadership Foundations in recognition of the scope, scale, and global nature of the network. He creates a series of task forces that bring further definition to the work, including the formalization of the three functions, now known as the LF wheel of change.

2011

The Leadership Foundations Leadership Council is created. This group of key leaders serves as ambassadors of LF and provides critical advice and assistance to the network.

TOGETHER, WE IMPACTED THE LIVES OF OVER 200,000 PEOPLE AND IMPACTED MILLIONS MORE THROUGH OUR UNIQUE APPROACH.

THIS IS ALL POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF YOU. THANK YOU!
KNOXVILLE LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION: OUR NETWORK IN ACTION

Through the Leadership Foundations Stages of Impact annual assessment, data are aggregated on how Local Leadership Foundations are deepening their impact and increasing mastery of the wheel of change in their cities. One of the outcomes of this rigorous process is a catalogue of the 193 network programs and joint initiatives: a veritable and verifiable Pentecost of urban ministry. Each has been contextualized to that city’s presenting issue, delivering real, substantive impact in the lives of community members, people who have a story to tell. One such story comes from the Knoxville Leadership Foundation:

Jean Claude and Marie arrived in the U.S. as refugees in 2007, seeking aid after a long civil war in their home country of Burundi. They had the same dream that all parents have—to provide opportunity and a safe environment for their four children. After much hard work and study, they achieved their initial goal of becoming U.S. citizens.

Next, they set to work on purchasing a family home. Jean Claude and Marie joined one of Knoxville Leadership Foundation’s (KLF) housing initiatives, the Homebuyer Readiness Program (HRP). HRP provides one-on-one financial coaching designed to teach financial literacy while repairing credit in a step-by-step process toward homeownership. One of KLF’s goals is to help restore community pride within Knoxville’s neighborhoods by building moderately priced homes and offering assistance with the purchase price. When Jean Claude and Marie first enrolled in the program, they were excited at the prospect of owning their own home in a secure area free from violence. In the summer of 2017, the HRP staff had the pleasure of walking with Jean Claude and Marie through the door to the home of their dreams. In addition to the financial and homeownership training, Jean Claude and Marie received down payment assistance from the City of Knoxville. They are currently enjoying raising their family in a beautiful, two-story home of their own.

Jean Claude and Marie’s story of homeownership is a wonderful example of our wheel of change in action: KLF engaged with many others of good faith and good will through the Homebuyer Readiness Program, most importantly Jean Claude and Marie. KLF was able to build the capacity of others by leveraging joint initiatives through their partnerships with city and state agencies as well as community development initiatives. Local Leadership Foundations like KLF drive change at the citywide level with a focused eye on the individual—those beneficiaries like Jean Claude and Marie who experience grace, redemption, empowerment, and reward for their own hard work.

JEAN CLAUDE AND MARIE’S STORY OF HOMEOWNERSHIP IS A WONDERFUL EXAMPLE OF OUR WHEEL OF CHANGE IN ACTION.

NETWORK IMPACT

- 209 programs and joint initiatives
- 12,963 cross-sector meetings convened
- 469 organizations received capacity-building support
- 164,711 individuals served through LFF programs, joint initiatives, and partnerships

As we equip our members, they transform the lives of people in their cities. Here are just a few examples of the types of programs and joint initiatives the LFF network uses to create real impact.

👩‍🏫 Educational Access
躲避 Housing
🎒 Mentoring
👨‍⚖️ Prisoner Reentry
➡️ Refugee Empowerment
💼 Workforce Development

LOCAL LEADERSHIP FOUNDATIONS ARE DEEPENING THEIR IMPACT AND INCREASING MASTERY OF THE WHEEL OF CHANGE IN THEIR CITIES.
Leadership Foundations begins its final year of the three-year Advancement Plus Project (APP), crafted by The Ridgegroup Group, with a deep appreciation for what has been accomplished and the aspirations that have surfaced. The work of APP continues to grow, generate, and accelerate ever-greater evidence of the redemptive force the LF network has become in communities and cities around the world. The following are just a few of the concrete examples of the wonderful work we have achieved.

**FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF THE GLOBAL YOUTH INITIATIVE AND BOARD TRAINING INITIATIVE AS ANCILLARY SERVICES:** The APP process made it clear that LF exists with one singular purpose in mind: to increase LF members’ mastery of the wheel of change through the delivery of ancillary services and baseline services. As LF continues to provide baseline services like our Senior Associates strategy, the Stages of Impact Platform, and Accreditations, we are pleased to report the further maturing of two of the most prominent ancillary services: The Global Youth Initiative (GYI) and The Board Training Initiative (BTI).

The GYI seeks to impact youth through the vehicle of mentoring and leadership development and is made up of five individual strategies:

- **Mentoring Youth for Leadership:** A 24-site initiative funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice
- **Full Court Press:** A basketball skills and leadership clinic in partnership with the National Basketball Retired Players Association, Police Athletic League, and Jr. NBA
- **Highway of Hope:** A pilot basketball and mentoring program with the LLP in Nairobi
- **Summer Leadership Program:** A 10-day program that delivers multicultural leadership skills to high school students in partnership with Young Life
- **The PEAR Institute Demonstration:** A pilot project that promotes social-emotional development in young people using the Holistic Student Assessment in partnership with The PEAR Institute

The GYI served 3,084 individuals across 10 Local Leadership Foundations in 2017 and is on target to impact the lives of 10,000 youth by 2020.

In partnership with the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust, LF created the BTI, which engages staff and board leadership in an intensive year-long initiative that couples training, individualized coaching, and personalized work plans to increase board engagement and performance. It is our conviction that the health of an organization is in direct proportion to the health of its board. To date, LF has trained 10 LF members and partners, is currently training a cohort of 5 others, and anticipates training another 15 LF members and partners in 2018-2019. Because of its success, LF Africa has begun to create its own contextualized version of BTI to launch in 2018.

**SMALL-TOWN AND RURAL LOCAL LEADERSHIP FOUNDATIONS:** The APP validated LF’s theory of change, augmented the LF Accreditation process, and resulted in the creation of tools like the Stages of Impact Platform. All of these are designed to help our members as they work to transform their cities and the lives of the underserved and marginalized. Due to the practical accessibility of these resources, a number of small-town and rural places have requested affiliation with LF. As a result of these requests and LF’s deep theological commitment to the poor, who have migrated to these communities at an increasing rate in recent years, we formed a task force at the beginning of 2017 to recommend how LF may be of help and support in these communities. Through the task force, consisting of LF directors and board members with experience working in these areas, we are pleased to report that a series of recommendations has been made to extend LF’s mission to engage not only the cities of the world, but also the small and rural towns that have become catch basins for some of our most vulnerable sisters and brothers.

Along with these and many other significant accomplishments of the past, APP is also engendering aspirations for the future: 40TH ANNIVERSARY CAPITAL CAMPAIGN: In order to operationalize all of Bridgespan’s APP recommendations, continue to keep up with the demand for and the growth of our baseline and ancillary services, and celebrate the 40-year legacy of LF, the LF Board decided to create a Capital Campaign in 2018. The purpose of the campaign is to:

1. **STRENGTHEN** the current work of LF’s membership;
2. **RECOGNIZE** in a meaningful way Reid and Jerry’s respective contributions;
3. **INNOVATE** through thought leadership and research;
4. **INVIGORATE** LF’s donor base, brand awareness, and communications strategy.

**COLANGELO CARPENTER INNOVATION CENTER (CGIC):** The centerpiece of the 40th Campaign will be the CGIC, honoring the legacy of our first board chair, Jerry Colangelo, and our first president, Reid Carpenter. The creation of the CGIC comes as a result of acquiring LeaderComm at the end of 2017, an organization co-created by Reid and the founder of Communities in Schools and an LF board member, Bill Milliken. The CGIC will reside in Washington D.C., and we anticipate it opening by July 2018. The CGIC will be an important resource generating and scaling innovative practices, programs, and policies to the LF network and other practitioners working on urban and civic renewal.

Through APP, LF is excited to share these accomplishments and aspirations for the future. Together, they provide a strong foundation as we continue to work toward seeing our cities and communities transform into God’s playgrounds.

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**2012**

Leadership Foundations goes on to scale with the introduction of a number of key services and initiatives like the Collaborative Grant Center and the Senior Associates Strategy.

**2013**

Leadership Foundations launches the Global Youth Initiative (GYI) to address the need for mentoring and leadership development among urban youth across the world. The GYI goes on to welcome numerous key partners, including the Jr. NBA, the National Basketball Retired Players Association, the U.S. Department of Justice, Young Life, Communities in Schools, the National Police Athletic League, and eBay. The Initiative seeks to serve 10,000 youth by 2020.
LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT & BOARD CHAIR

We write this letter as the Leadership Foundations network sits on the cusp of our 40th year of service to cities and communities around the world. These 40 years, noted by the accomplishments in the timeline running throughout this report, are described from within the sweeping shadow of what God has done and under the bright light of anticipating what God will do. To inhabit this space—celebrating both the past and preparing for the future—LF is mindful of what has helped us live faithfully into our vision and mission.

To live in this space, we need to have a clear sense of what it means to be a community in mission whereby there exists a vision big enough to justify the community and, in turn, a community strong enough to steward the vision. This sentiment has been a part of the LF story from the very beginning. With such an audacious dream as seeing a city become God’s playground, LF’s mothers and fathers understood that the vehicle that would transport them to this promised land was friendship and community. The LF Board, Commons.” LF believes deeply that this type of leadership is a cultivated reality, with leaders paying attention to what it means to serve others in the name of Jesus without regard to the challenge, cost, or consequence. We see in people like Abhishek Gier and Lina Slattery, and the 40+ LF members like the Knoxville Leadership Foundation, riveting examples of this kind of leadership: the resolve to stand up, the facility to articulate and address the greatest needs in a city, and the largeness of spirit to do so on behalf of the whole.

To live in this space, we need to be grounded yet innovative. As John R.W. Stott describes, “Every Christian should be both conservative and radical; conservative in preserving the faith and radical in applying it.” LF recognizes that through processes like the Advancement Plus Project with The Bridgespan Group, we have been able to conserve the heritage that has been handed down to us under the guidance of the Holy Spirit through individuals like Sam Shoemaker, Jerry, Reid, Nancy Chalfant, Doris Hillman, Harry Howell, and many others. We also know that we need to take their gift and radically apply it in ever fresh and creative ways through new avenues like the Global Youth Initiative, the Board Training Initiative, small-town and rural work, the 40th Anniversary Capital Campaign, and the launch of the Colangelo Carpenter Innovation Center.

In the end, this space that LF inhabits so that cities can in fact become playgrounds results from the overwhelming grace of God taking root in people who are willing to say yes to both what has been and what can be moving forward. Thank you for your gracious and significant support.

2015

Leadership Foundations engages The Bridgespan Group around the Advancement Plus Project to determine what shifts are needed to achieve greater impact in cities around the world. The extensive process results in an increased focus on member improvement and baseline services. The Stages of Impact Platform launches to provide LF Presidents with data to deepen organizational impact and expand mastery of the LF wheel of change.

2018 AND BEYOND

Leadership Foundations celebrates four decades serving cities and communities around the world and is poised to take the movement to the next level. We look to the future through our 40th Anniversary Capital Campaign that will position us to invest in our growing global network and launch the Colangelo Carpenter Innovation Center to generate and scale innovative practices, programs, and policies in our cities.
Subscribe to the LF Podcast. Learn more about how we drive the wheel of change in cities and hear stories from the field. Listen on our website: www.leadershipfoundations.org/media or subscribe on iTunes and other podcast apps by searching for Leadership Foundations: City As Playground.

Sign up for our newsletter, “Street Lights,” at leadershipfoundations.org/sign-up