Yes, I would like to sponsor a child.

Yes, please keep me informed about the work CDF is doing to protect children.

Yes, I want to be contacted directly on behalf of children.

CDF is a 501(c) 3 charity. All donations are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.

For additional information, please call (202) 628-8787 or email us at info@freedomschools.org.

CDF Freedom Schools

How will America’s children be able to compete in our increasingly global economy and succeed in adulthood with the help of caring families and communities.

The Children’s Defense Fund Leave No Child Behind® mission is to ensure every child a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Safe Start and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities.

CDF FREEDOM SCHOOLS

Supporting the Dream & Education of Children in Your Community

CDF Freedom Schools

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**CDF FREEDOM SCHOOLS®**

**YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

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"We want our children to appreciate fully the arts, moral and spiritual values that will bring to them much of their heritage of the past and make it possible to pass these values onto their successors…"

—Marian Wright Edelman

The Children's Defense Fund (CDF) is a non-profit, non-partisan, membership organization that advocates for the policy and program changes necessary to ensure every child a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start, and a Moral Start in life and a successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities. CDF's vision is that every child will be healthy, well-educated, safe, loving and achieve his or her full potential.

CDF's Freedom Schools program is an intergenerational educational program founded by CDF President Marian Wright Edelman and the Black Community Challenge. Freedom Schools provides summer and after-school enrichment through a research-based educational model. It is built around five essential components: high-quality academic enrichment, parent and family involvement, civic engagement and social action, intergenerational educational leadership, and a multicultural curriculum that supports children and families.

CDF Freedom Schools program provides summer and after-school enrichment for children grades K-12, with an emphasis on increasing reading proficiency, reducing juvenile delinquency and drug use, and generating positive attitudes toward learning. It is an innovative approach to ensuring a secure future for our nation's most valuable resource—its children.

CDF Freedom Schools program provides summer and after-school enrichment through a research-based educational model. It is built around five essential components: high-quality academic enrichment, parent and family involvement, civic engagement and social action, intergenerational educational leadership, and a multicultural curriculum that supports children and families.

CDF Freedom Schools program incorporates the totality of CDF's mission to support children and young adults to excel and to believe in their ability to contribute to their communities, country, and world with hope, education and action. Since 1995, more than 100,000 children in grades K-12 have participated in CDF Freedom Schools programs in 47 states and the District of Columbia. CDF Freedom Schools programs have made an enormous difference in children's lives.

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**HARAMBEE! — LET’S PULL TOGETHER**

*Image 27x226 to 412x415*

The curriculum promotes cooperative learning, critical science, technology, engineering and math (STEM education) activities. Our goal is to identify, train, nurture, mobilize Head Start

The CDF Freedom Schools® program serves children ages 5–18 and ensures every child receives a relevant and diverse books at parents participate in education workshops on child care, are required to provide two nutritious meals (breakfast and college and set goals for themselves.

If you have questions or need support in connecting with schools or students, please call the program office at (202) 628-8787 or email us at freedomschools@childrensdefense.org.

A Moral Start:

A Safe Start:

A Healthy Start:

A Fair Start:

CLOSING ACHIEVEMENT GAPS AND STOPPING SUMMER LEARNING LOSS

In 2012, a four-year study of Achievement First students at Charles R. Ferebee Elementary School in Charlotte, N.C., showed that students who participated in the Achievement First summer enrichment program showed significant gains in reading and reading comprehension. In 2013, the Hartford Family Research Project released a report which shows CDF Freedom Schools® and Head Start students who participated in summer learning programs showed significant gains in reading and writing in English. These gains were sustained in 2014.

Parents and community leaders are encouraged to participate. "Harambee!" — a Motivational Song — ‘Something Inside So Strong.’

I’ve been in classrooms and understand the impact of leadership and will tell you that my visits to schools are a planned activity and not a spontaneous visit.

In 2012, children in Charlotte, N.C. found over 90 percent of the children served by the youth after-school program. The youth after-school program is a service of CDF Freedom Schools® and Head Start students who participated in summer learning programs.

Children’s Defense Fund
25 E Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
**HARAMBEE!** — LET’S PULL TOGETHER

FINANCIAL COMMITMENT

In 2013, a four-week study of Achievement First at CDF Freedom Schools in Charlotte, N.C. found that by the end of the school year, students showed gains in reading and writing proficiency. In July 2011, the Hartford Community Foundation released a report in which the CDF Freedom Schools model was described as “a powerful, scalable, and sustainable solution to the summer learning loss” evident in a diverse array of inner-city communities. The report states, “The CDF Freedom Schools model trains college and recent graduates as servant leader interns to deliver the educational and social support that every child needs to start learning and succeed in school.”

**GLOBAL EDUCATION GAPs AND STOPping SUMMER LEARNING LOSS**

Every child, regarless of background, has the ability to learn. Every child has the right to learn. Every child deserves a chance to learn. Unfortunately, many children do not have access to the educational resources they need. This summer, you can help to change this.

*What can you do to help?*

CDF Freedom Schools are a national network of educational programs that provide children with the educational and social support needed to start learning and succeed in school. CDF Freedom Schools are led by servant leader interns, who are college students and recent graduates. These interns work with children and their families to ensure that every child has the opportunity to learn. CDF Freedom Schools are a powerful, scalable, and sustainable solution to the summer learning loss evident in a diverse array of inner-city communities.

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"HARAMBEE!" — LET'S PULL TOGETHER

A Fun Start:

CDF Freedom Schools® program trains college students and recent graduates as servant leader interns to deliver the program. The annual Ella Baker Child Policy Training emphasizes the importance of education and advocating for children and the next generation of leaders by investing in the after-school program.

A Moral Start:

Children are encouraged to dream, set goals for themselves, cultivate positive attitudes and high expectations.

A Fair Start:

Local college students and recent graduates to teach the program. The annual Ella Baker Child Policy Training empowers them to lead their students ready to learn.

A Safe Start:

Background checks are required for all staff and sponsors must meet state and local health and safety regulations.

A Healthy Start:

A stipend by the sponsoring organization.

A Strong Start:

The CDF Freedom Schools® program encourages teachers and sponsors to provide two nutritious meals (breakfast and lunch) and at least one snack for each child at the site. Insurance.

Recommended hours of operation are 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Nutrition:

Clever cooks can come up with nutritious meals. They must be able to accommodate any allergies or dietary restrictions.

Sponsors need to know that the site is open to all students who apply, K–12th grade. No child is turned away. CDF Freedom Schools® program site must operate for a minimum of seven hours each day, five days each week. The sponsoring organization is responsible for all equipment and supplies.

Schedule:

Quarterly reviews are required to ensure that students are on track to meet or exceed the learning goals established at the beginning of the year. Staffing:

The CDF Freedom Schools® program requires sponsors to provide staff, including site staff and servant leader interns. All staff must participate in training programs. Each program site must be able to operate at no charge to families.

Global Achievement Gaps and Stopping Summer Learning Loss:

In 2012, a four-year study of students enrolled at CDF Freedom Schools® in Charlotte, N.C., demonstrated gaps greater than those reported in previous studies. A study of students enrolled in Kansas City, Missouri, demonstrated a stipend is an incentive to keep students involved in the after-school program.

Critical resources are essential to a high-quality program, and sponsors need to understand that financial resources are necessary to ensure that the program is successful.

What Potential, CDF Freedom Schools® Sponsors Need to Know:

The CDF Freedom Schools® program is designed to ensure that every child in every neighborhood has access to a high-quality, academically enriching after-school program. The annual Ella Baker Child Policy Training empowers them to lead their students ready to learn.

Sponsors:

By now, you know the CDF Freedom Schools® program is a high-quality, academically enriching after-school program. The CDF Freedom Schools® program is the only comprehensive, community-based, evidence-based, scalable and sustainable approach to academically enriching the lives of children.
These meals must meet USDA standards. Lunch and at least one snack are required to provide two nutritious meals (breakfast and lunch) and at least one snack to each child, every day. To promote a healthy home life, each week CDF Freedom Schools sites serve as positive role models and mentors for college and set goals for themselves. A Moral Start: Children read a superb collection of culturally diverse and high-quality literature; they learn to tell their stories and help others tell theirs. A Fair Start: Integrated Reading Curriculum. The dynamic curriculum aligns with the Common Core State Standards and includes cooperative learning, critical thinking, and nonviolent conflict resolution. The curriculum promotes cooperative learning, critical thinking, and nonviolent conflict resolution.

**A Healthy Start:**

- Students read a superb collection of culturally diverse and high-quality literature; they learn to tell their stories and help others tell theirs. 
- The curriculum promotes cooperative learning, critical thinking, and nonviolent conflict resolution.

**A Head Start:**

- Science, technology, engineering and math (STEM education) activities. Our goal is to identify, train, nurture, mobilize, and empower young leaders to advocate for children in their communities back home. 
- Through repetition, students believe the message. 

**A Safe Start:**

- Children are encouraged to dream, set goals for achievement, practice positive attitudes and high expectations.

**A 10:1 child-to-teacher ratio keeps the culturally diverse environment stable and safe.**

**WHAT MAKES CDF FREEDOM SCHOOLS DIFFERENT?**

- Jobs: Child Development Specialist (CDSS) and Lead Child Development Specialist (LCS) in Chicago, Seattle, Los Angeles, and New York City.
- A CDF Freedom Schools Co-Coordinator works closely with the Program Coordinator to provide technical assistance.
- A Site Coordinator oversees classrooms, local project and program coordination.
- A CDF Faculty Director provides ongoing professional development and supervision.
- A CDF Freedom School Program Director supports the site coordinator and is responsible for the success of the program.
- A CDF Freedom School Program Assistant is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the site.

**BEST RESULTS:**

- The quality of learning opportunities for youth. In 2008, a three-year study conducted for the Kauffman Foundation showed that students enrolled in Kansas City, Missouri CDF Freedom Schools programs demonstrated significant improvement in reading, science, technology, engineering and math (STEM education) activities. Our goal is to identify, train, nurture, mobilize, and empower young leaders to advocate for children in their communities back home. 
- The program must be staffed by college-age adults who apply to CDF Freedom Schools. No child is denied access due to socio-economic circumstance. A 10:1 child-to-teacher ratio keeps the culturally diverse environment stable and safe.

**RECOGNITIONS**

- Created the first national nonviolence educational and activism curriculum. 
- Created the first national nonviolence educational and activism curriculum.

**WHAT POTENTIAL CDF FREEDOM SCHOOLS SPONSORS NEED TO KNOW**

- Every child should have access to learning and reading to maintain a high-level of educational opportunities. 
- Each program site must purchase the required books for the site and for the children. 
- Each program site must be able to operate at no charge to families. 
- Staffing: The program must be staffed by college-age adults who apply to CDF Freedom Schools. No child is denied access due to socio-economic circumstance. 
- A 10:1 child-to-teacher ratio keeps the culturally diverse environment stable and safe.

**SCHOOLS, WORK WITH COLLEGE STUDENTS AND RECENT GRADUATES TO TEACH THE PROGRAM**

- College and community leaders are encouraged to participate. 
- CDF Freedom Schools provide a fun learning environment in every classroom. 
- Students read a superb collection of culturally diverse and high-quality literature; they learn to tell their stories and help others tell theirs. 
- The curriculum promotes cooperative learning, critical thinking, and nonviolent conflict resolution. 

**TENNESSEE AND AT FACILITIES IN KNOXVILLE, TEN.**

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Yes, I would like to sponsor a
CDF Freedom Schools program in my community.

Yes, please keep me informed about the work CDF is doing to protect and defend the rights of all children. I want to be contacted directly on behalf of children.

Yes, I would like to support the mission of the Children’s Defense Fund by making a financial contribution to the
CDF Freedom Schools program in my community.

Yes, I would like to speak with someone about the
CDF Freedom Funds

Thank you for your generosity. Your support is making such a profound difference in the lives of children across America today. True educational equality and excellence for all children is a life-changing experience.

Kyla gave her CDF Freedom Schools annual summer program book to her grandmother so she could read at home each week.

"We love our children to appreciate fully the arts, nourish and revitalize values that will bring to them much of their heritage of the past and make it possible to pass down to them much of their heritage of the past and make it possible to pass it on to our children. We want our children to appreciate fully the artistic, moral and spiritual values that will bring to them much of their heritage of the past and make it possible to pass it on to our children. We want our children to appreciate fully the artistic, moral and spiritual values."

— Dr. John Hope Franklin (1915–2009)

CDF Freedom Schools

You Can Make A Difference

CDF Freedom Schools is making such a profound difference in the lives of children across the United States. True educational equality and excellence for all children is a life-changing experience. Children have only one childhood. How we treat them in the first 1,000 days is critical to their future success.

CDF Freedom Schools is a community based organization that incorporates the totality of CDF’s mission to support children in their communities, country, and world with hope, education and the tools to restorative social justice through education and advocacy.

CDF Freedom Schools is the youngest child of the Children’s Defense Fund (CDF), the nation’s leading advocate for the advancement of children’s policy and rights. The CDF Freedom Schools program provides summer and after-school enrichment through a research-based program that boosts student motivation to read, compute at grade level.

CDF Freedom Schools are an innovative approach to teaching, learning and family involvement. CDF Freedom Schools use volunteers to mentor children and build a foundation for school readiness and achievement. CDF Freedom Schools are an intergenerational educational program founded by CDF President Marian Wright Edelman.

CDF Freedom Schools are a part of the Children’s Defense Fund Leave No Child Behind® mission is to ensure every child a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities.

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“We urge our children to appreciate fully the ancient, universal and spiritual values that will bring in their charge of their offspring of the past and make it possible for you.

What inspires your vision?

—Dr. John Hope Franklin (1915–2009)

The Children’s Defense Fund Leave No Child Behind® mission is to ensure every child a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities.

CDF FREEDOM SCHOOLS®

The CDF Freedom Schools® program provides the power and all school enrichment through research-based and evidence-based activities that engage children and families toward a common goal: to generate positive attitudes toward learning, and to connect the needs of children and families to resources that promote academic, moral, social and civic engagement.

WHY THE CDF FREEDOM SCHOOLS® PROGRAM?
The CDF Freedom Schools® program is committed to ensure every child a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities.

SUPPORT THE DREAMS & EDUCATION OF CHILDREN IN YOUR COMMUNITY!

CDF Freedom Schools® are safe and restorative learning spaces where children are surrounded by caring adults and college students to ensure every child a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities.

For additional information, please call (202) 628-8787 or email us at freedomschools@childrensdefense.org

CDF Freedom Schools

25 E Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001
Fax: (202) 662-3570
Tel: (202) 628-8787

CDF National Office

www.freedomschools.org

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

"I Can Make a Difference"

The CDF Freedom Schools® program requires the commitment of community-based organizations, faith institutions, schools, colleges and universities, homeless shelters and non-profits. The program is designed to meet the needs of children and families in their communities, country, and world with hope, education and intergenerational leadership development, and nutrition, health and mental health. In partnership with high-quality academic enrichment, parent and family involvement, civic engagement and social action, partnerships can make a significant difference in the lives of children and families living in poverty.

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Yes, I would like to support the mission of the Children’s Defense Fund by making a financial contribution to the
CDF Freedom Schools program.

Yes, I would like to sponsor a child in your Freedom Schools program.

Yes, please keep me informed about the work CDF is doing to protect children’s rights.

Yes, I would like to speak with someone about the CDF Freedom Schools program.

Yes, I want to be contacted directly about key children’s issues, policy developments, and social actions.

Yes, I want to be contacted by phone about CDF Freedom Schools.

Yes, I would like to support the mission of the Children’s Defense Fund by making a financial contribution to the CDF Freedom Schools program.

The Children’s Defense Fund Leave No Child Behind® mission is to ensure every child a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities.

WHAT COULD POSSIBLY MATTER MORE?

We care so much about the future of our children and our nation that we must be bold in the choices we make to bring about real change. Children are the foundation of our communities, our nation, and our world. It is not too late to change the world.

CDF Freedom Schools® is a dynamic program that provides academic enrichment, parent and family involvement, civic engagement and social action, and multicultural curriculum that supports children and families around five essential components: healthy start, head start, fair start, safe start, and moral start. The program is designed to work in partnership with local organizations to strengthen the communities in which poor children reside. To learn more about the program, visit the Children’s Defense Fund website at www.freedomschools.org.

CDF Freedom Schools® is a life-changing experience. As an example, Kyla, a student in the CDF Freedom Schools program in Durham, North Carolina, returned to her school in the fall of 2006 after her fifth-grade reading grade level was determined to be a 1.6 grade level below grade level. Kyla gave her grandmother a test to pass because she was not able to participate on one condition, that Kyla re-take her tests in the middle of the summer. Kyla passed with the highest possible score. “I Can Make a Difference” is a comprehensive program that incorporates the totality of CDF’s mission to support children and families by providing educational, health, and legal services to ensure every child a healthy, head start, fair start, safe start, and moral start in life.

CDF Freedom Schools® is making such a profound difference in the lives of children across the country. The program has made an enormous difference in the lives of children in grades K-8. A majority of all children and more than 76 percent or more of fourth and eighth-grade students are in schools where they do not compute at grade level. A child is born into poverty every 32 seconds. A public high school student drops out every 8 seconds. The children are encouraged to dream about college and set goals for themselves, and for many of them, including Kyla, the program makes a difference in themselves and in their families, schools, communities, country, and world with hope, education and learning, the CDF Freedom Schools program boosts student motivation to read, compute at grade level, and learn to restorative social justice through education and advocacy. Since 1995, more than 100,000 children in grades K-8 have been served through the CDF Freedom Schools program. Additionally, more than 34,000 adult volunteers have been trained and serve across the United States.

CDF Freedom Schools® staff work closely with members of the communities served to ensure that CDF Freedom Schools® are safe and restorative learning spaces where children are surrounded by caring adults and college students who model, encourage and teach academic skills. In addition, college students who have completed academic requirements are given the opportunity to lead young people in academic enrichment, and they learn about the power of working with children to effect change.

CDF Freedom Schools® sites are run by community-based organizations, faith institutions, schools, colleges and universities, homeless shelters and juvenile detention centers, the flexible hours of which make it possible for children to participate in this dynamic program.

CDF Freedom Schools® incorporates the totality of CDF’s mission to support children and families by providing educational, health, and legal services to ensure every child a healthy, head start, fair start, safe start, and moral start in life. To learn more about CDF Freedom Schools®, visit the Children’s Defense Fund website at www.freedomschools.org.

THE CDF FREEDOM SCHOOLS® PROGRAM?

CDF Freedom Schools program provides the means and the school environment through research-based and methodological activities to support children and families across the country. This program provides a century-old commitment to high-quality academic enrichment, parent and family involvement, civic engagement and social action, development of intergenerational leadership, and on-site mentoring to ensure every child a healthy, head start, fair start, safe start, and moral start in life.

CDF Freedom Schools® sites are designed to ensure every child a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start, and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities.

“Why the CDF Freedom Schools® Program?” page 1

CDF Freedom Schools®

WHAT COULD POSSIBLY MATTER MORE?

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Harambee is a Kiswahili word that means “let’s pull together.” The CDF Freedom Schools program began with this goal in mind: to create an active learning environment that is engaging, relevant curriculum engaging.

The CDF Freedom Schools program engages students and urban communities across the United States to deliver the Howard Gardner model of learning. The program has been successful in over 200 sites in 15 states.

Integrated Reading Curriculum. The dynamic curriculum aligns with the Common Core State Standards and includes reading, writing, and critical thinking. The curriculum promotes cooperative learning, critical thinking, and the development of important skills necessary for success in the 21st century.

**A Head Start:**
- A nutritious breakfast and lunch served every day to every child.
- The lunch program must meet USDA standards.
- The meal program is optional and serves as a model for the national child nutrition program.

**A Healthy Start:**
- A wellness program that includes health education, nutrition education, and physical activity.
- The program must be staffed by college-age adults (19-30) from the local community who have completed at least one year of college and have plans to continue their education.

**A Safe Start:**
- A staff-to-child ratio of 10:1 to ensure the safety and well-being of every child.
- The program must be staffed by college-age adults (19-30) from the local community who have completed at least one year of college and have plans to continue their education.

**A Fair Start:**
- A program that provides equal opportunities to all children, regardless of race, ethnicity, or socio-economic status.
- The program must be staffed by college-age adults (19-30) from the local community who have completed at least one year of college and have plans to continue their education.

**A Strong Start:**
- A program that provides a strong foundation for all children.
- The program must be staffed by college-age adults (19-30) from the local community who have completed at least one year of college and have plans to continue their education.

The CDF Freedom Schools program is designed to help children ready to learn. It is a comprehensive program that helps children achieve their full potential.

**GLOBAL CHALLENGES AND STOPPING SUMMER LEARNING LOSS**

In 2012, a four-year study of children enrolled at CDF Freedom Schools sites in Charlotte, N.C. found over 90 percent of children were reading at grade level at the end of the summer. The study concluded that CDF Freedom Schools sites were successful in preventing summer learning loss.

**WHY DO WE NEED MORE CDF FREEDOM SCHOOLS?**

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**WHAT POTENTIAL CDF FREEDOM SCHOOLS SPONSORS NEED TO KNOW**

- The sponsoring organization must pay training fees to CDF for servant leader interns and site staff.
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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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**MOTIVATIONAL SONG**

- A fun learning environment in every classroom.
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**CLOSING ACHIEVEMENT GAPS AND STOPPING SUMMER LEARNING LOSS**

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**CERTIFIED CHILD POLICY TRAINERS**

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**OUR NEXT CAMPAIGN: ROADS TO OPPORTUNITY**

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**MARKETING AND COMMUNICATION**

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**TENNESSEE INSTITUTE**

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**ANNOUNCING OUR 2013-2014 GRANTS**

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