

April 2023 Newsletter

Someone Else's Child

Highlights

> Establishing a Youth Philanthropy initiative to incorporate the voice of young people into our efforts.

- Integrating a "shared value" approach as a compliment to our collective action efforts.
- SEC takes first step toward becoming a working foundation with the addition of Boston Explorers.

"While they may be someone else's child, it the responsibility of a community to ensure the wellbeing & success of every child."

Shared Value Lessons from Innovators for Purpose

Michael Dawson, cofounder of Innovators for Purpose (IfP)in Cambridge, MA, introduced us to the concept of Shared Value (CSV). Through the <u>2 Blocks</u> project, the youth at IfP ask, how much of a difference can 2 blocks from the most *Innovative square mile on* the planet make? The answer? A lot! The youth of IfP are imploring corporations to provide an equal opportunity, not through charity, but because it's just good business.

CVS was first described by Michael Porter and Mark Kramer in their 2011 seminal HBR article, <u>Creating Shared Value</u>. They define shared value as "policies and operating practices that enhance the competitiveness of a company while simultaneously ad-

vancing the economic and social conditions in the communities in which it operates."

At Someone Else's Child (SEC), we heartily embrace this viewpoint in our approach to philanthropy and promoting opportunities for youth. In its purest form, Shared Value challenges corporations to take a more thoughtful and balanced approach to business.

This concept can be applied more broadly to all of us in our communities. We all have a responsibility to support and create meaningful opportunity for our young people.





Youth Philanthropy in Action

For two years, SEC has participated in Cristo Rey's Work Study Program. Our amazing intern this year is Sophomore Ale Reyes Lemus. Earlier in the year and following in the spirit of SEC's long standing Kids-Helping-Kids initiative, Ale realized her fellow students could benefit from personal care kits. With support from SEC, she organized a group of sophomores to help compile care kits and give them out to students at CRB. Inspired in part by Ale's thoughtful community work, SEC is organizing a formal youth philanthropy program in 2023.



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Northeast Arc & Pathways to Opportunities





In 2021, SEC was introduced to Jo Ann Simons, CEO and Tim Brown, Director of Innovation at Northeast Arc. "The organization was founded by parents of children living with developmental disabilities who dreamed of having their children be full members of the community."

SEC provided seed funding to NE ARC for

Pathways to Opportunities, an innovative program that provides training and internship opportunities for H.S students to work in the field of Human Services.

This fall Northeast Arc welcomed the first cohort of 14 students for the Pathways to Opportunities mentoring program at Lynn Classical High School. Pathways' students are being educated about the skills needed to work in clinical services and nursing, employment readiness and job placement, finance, long-term support services, marketing (including safely using social media), and residential services. The Pathways program is a terrific example of building community shared value in Lvnn, MA. Here is a link to a WBZ story about this innovative program.

MIT Solve Equity Summit - Celebration & Connection



We recently attended the 2023 MIT Solve Equity Summit in Tulsa, OK. This year's US Equity Summit was intentionally hosted in Tulsa for its historical significance and proximity to the communities, including 39 sovereign nations. Solve hopes to strengthen relationships and promote Indigenous, Black, and Brown peoples who have been

historically underserved in the entrepreneurial space.

"The US Equity Summit celebrated and connected entrepreneurs in the 2022 Solver Class with individuals who would uplift their work and help them scale, using tech as a platform for safe community gatherings and storytelling."

Learning Through Collaboration



Last year, in an effort to spur collaboration, SEC initiated its International Leaders Learning Circle. The leaders of Rungano-Ndota in Rwanda, Yiya Solutions in Uganda, Inuka Cultural Center in Kenya, Rebuild Africa in Liberia, El Arbol in Mexico, and MAIA in Guatemala convene quarterly to learn together and identify opportunities for collaboration.

Facilitation duties are shared with

a different partner leading each session. The discussions have been enlightening and quite candid leading to a meaningful sharing of ideas and opportunities.

The value from these gatherings is intriguing and potentially quite powerful given the different geographies and perspectives.

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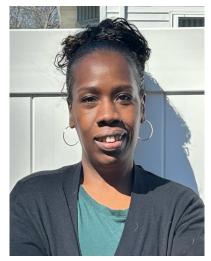
A New Office & Program for SEC

This month, we are finally moving to permanent space in Dorchester, MA. Our office is located in the historic (1904) Pierce Building in the Uphams Corner neighborhood. We'll be near many of our non-profit partners and the youth we all serve. The office is owned by the Dorchester Bay Economic Development Corporation. The building will be home to many non-profits presenting exciting opportunities for partnering.

In other news, SEC will be bringing longtime partner, <u>Boston Explorers</u> (BE), into SEC as a direct program. Iconic founder and E.D., Alphonse Litz, will stay on as an advisor to SEC. Natasha Wright (pictured) has joined SEC as BE's Program Director. More to come on this exciting new opportunity for SEC to develop even stronger connections to our community and its youth.







Nurturing Minds in Tanzania

Nurturing Minds is a US-based non-profit whose mission is to support guality education, life skills, and entrepreneurship to help vulnerable girls in Tanzania become leaders in their communities. Nurturing Minds achieves this through partnership and support of <u>SEGA</u> (Secondary Education for Girls' Advancement), a non-profit organization based in Tanzania whose purpose is to improve the quality of life for Tanzanian girls.

SEGA boarding school serves approximately 280 girls each year. Students are selected from 25 different communities across Tanzania. Programs include entrepreneurship, life skills, environmental stewardship, continuing education scholarships, and "Modern Girl" community outreach.

Nurturing Minds, SEGA and SEC are partnering with Save the Rain to provide Tanzanian girls living with spina bifida with a quality secondary education. In addition to Save the Rain's main work harvesting rainwater, the organization helps children living with disabilities gain access to education.



Shared Value Harnesses the Power of Working Together

You may remember our previous references tomers. Now, Commuto <u>Livox</u>, the artificial intelligence alternative communication app that gives voice to people with disabilities. Inspired by his daughter, Clarinha, Carlos Pereira and his wife. Aline founded Livox in Brazil. In early years, SEC provided some

support to Livox's cusnity Impact Ventures is an investor in the company.

In a defining example of shared value, the Lego Foundation provided a grant to Livox for the development of advanced technology to benefit neurodivergent kids. This partnership with Lego will allow Livox to tap into the knowledge of neurodivergent kids by empowering them to become content creators. It's neurodivergent kids creating content for neurodivergent kids. Harnessing the creative power of youth to help others.



13 Years of Fun with **Boston Explorers**













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If you're inspired by SEC's partners, you can support them here.

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Transforming Education in Uganda with Little Dreamers

Little Dreamers Education Academy works to transform the educational experiences of students in Uganda. In equipping young people with life skills, they hope to disrupt ing the skills needed to systemic problems. We support their goals of expanding their "Life Skills Education" curriculum, training new teachers, accumulating educational resources, and building partnerships.

The Ugandan national curriculum employs rote learning which limits the development of critical thinking skills in learners. The education system in Uganda already faces challenges meeting young people's needs, Current teaching methods don't consistently prepare chil-

dren for what is to come following graduation. Despite an eagerness and commitment to learn, even students who finish school often find themselves lackovercome inequalities and secure one of the few available jobs leading to unemployment and poverty.

Education Transformation is Critical. Little Dreamers believes that by transforming education, we can equip children with the skills to disrupt systemic problems.

"I never knew of any greater school than Little Dreamers Education Academy. Our teachers are loving and check on us and our families." Maharat Muusa (pictured)







Inuka Cultural Center in Kenya A Visit From the Brazilian Ambassador



<u>Apprentice Learning</u> Shared Value in Action



<u>Father Ken</u> Visiting his school in Kenya



<u>El Arbol</u> Creating Opportunities in Mexico



<u>SEGA Tanzania</u> Access to Quality Education for all