

Answers to Three Questions On Why We Invite and Need You To Participate with Us in Securing Parkmont's Future

1. Why is Parkmont School a necessary educational option in the D.C. area?

Parkmont fills an essential niche for DC area youth who are at risk of not moving forward in their adolescent and educational development. The School helps “create futures” for students who have difficulty getting past the ordinary—or extraordinary—hurdles that one encounters during adolescence. Parkmont creates a student-centered haven where these young people can regroup, work with skilled teachers who are committed to their needs and well-being and gain the tools and confidence to begin charting their own course toward a successful and meaningful life. Utilizing short intensive sessions, internships and at times eclectic field trips and study tours, Parkmont’s program fuses adolescent interests with traditional disciplines,

2. Why is it important that we make Parkmont stronger at this stage?

Parkmont has come a long way from its early beginnings but its future is not guaranteed. In its 35 year tenure, the school has matured from being a financially strapped middle school, struggling to meet payroll each month to a well-established, accredited and debt-free leader in the community for grades 6-12. During this time the academic offerings and programming at Parkmont have been carefully honed; a core of well-educated, creative and energetic faculty is on board; and key resources are in place: from state-of-the-art computer technology to the vans used for athletics, field trips and multi-week learning adventures. The school also has been able to continue its aggressive financial aid program. However, since tuition does not cover all the costs of the “Parkmont experience”, the school still must work throughout the year to raise the monies needed to balance the budget. Parkmont has no reserve to fall back on during normal fluctuations in enrollment and external fundraising. It is time for Parkmont to build a financial structure that will provide stability over the long-term for the financial aid program, faculty development and overall operations, to assure that Parkmont can continue to help at-risk kids successfully “create futures” for themselves.

3. Why are we inviting you to help?

In order to meet the growing needs of area youth we need to assure that Parkmont remains strong and viable for the coming decades. Every dollar we raise in this campaign increases the chances that a young person will graduate from high school and move onto higher education and the world with greater skills and confidence.

Parkmont is a small school and as such has a small base of alumni and friends. Within this group we have only a few “angels” who have the capacity to make a gift to Parkmont that truly makes a difference. An amount that for other organizations in town may seem modest or even small, could be transformational for Parkmont

We depend on our generous friends—like you—to be our angels. Attached you find a “Case Statement” which lays out in more detail how the funds will be used and invested for Parkmont’s future. We look forward to meeting with you to answer any questions you might have on the campaign and invite you to join us in *Creating Futures – Parkmont’s Campaign for Today and Tomorrow*.

As always, thank you for being our friend!