



**THE SCHOOL THAT WORKS.**

# Cristo Rey High School Sacramento

## THE JOURNEY BEGINS

**W**hen Cristo Rey High School opened in August 2006 in a south Sacramento neighborhood some might have considered it a small miracle. After all, it was only a brief twelve months earlier an enthusiastic group of citizens and Catholic leaders sat around a table to discuss the need for an affordable high school exclusively for families with limited financial means. These educators, lawyers, business leaders and community volunteers looked to the innovative network of schools known as Cristo Rey as a replicable means to make their dream a reality.

Like so many start up enterprises, these founders dedicated long hours to complete the due diligence necessary to become a member school. Had it not been for their unwavering commitment to provide educational access to the underserved, this mission of love never would have launched in Sacramento. Although there were lots of twists and turns along the way, their work was carefully guided. On August 30, 2006, one-hundred brave freshmen walked down the center isle of the old parish hall at St. Peter's as participants of the "Mass of the Holy Spirit" beginning a life-changing journey for everyone associated with Cristo Rey High School Sacramento.



**Current Board of Directors** (Left to Right)  
 Top Row: Harris, Layton, Bakes, Kidder, Fansler, Johnson, Kassis.  
 Bottom Row: Bowers, Davis, Horgan, Pacyna  
 (Not shown: Baez, Diepenbrock, Lemmon, Perez)

**Cover Photo by Anne Hamersky** ([annehamersky.com](http://annehamersky.com))  
 Courtesy of Mission magazine

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# Message from the President



Cristo Rey students are succeeding as anticipated and are well on their way to being the first in their family to graduate from high school and advance to college. For these students, our initial founders were correct in their belief that high expectations, a rigorous curriculum, and a college-going culture would be enough to prepare our population of students for the future.

However, for other students, executing our plan has proven to be much more complex. Standardized testing shows many of our students come to Cristo Rey under-prepared for this challenging college-preparatory program. To achieve our mission as a Cristo Rey school, where there are expectations

for high school graduation *and* successful college completion, we have been forced to re-evaluate the process by which we are educating these students.

Our hard working teachers and staff have learned we must enhance our academic program to maximize achievement for every student, especially those performing below grade level. Without additional instruction, particularly in English, Math and Science, we cannot expect students to become engaged in their studies or see possibilities for the future. Currently, we are building special programs that will hopefully include summer classroom time for incoming and returning students. We see Cristo Rey becoming a year-round faith-based learning community where all have the opportunity for a transformative experience.

“Your generous and essential support has carried us to this point, and we thank you for believing in our educational model.”

—Ward Fansler, President

Our Corporate Work-Study program continues to be a powerful learning experience where students have the opportunity to discover new interests and talents. Regardless of their academic prowess, students shine in their jobs, developing confidence and people skills that will stay with them for the rest of their life. We continue to believe young people are capable of so much more than society gives them credit. Given an opportunity, they have the possibility to realize there is much to aspire to in life.

Your generous and essential support has carried us to this point, and we thank you for believing in our educational model. We invite you to continue to make an investment in our community by supporting Cristo Rey. Together we can make a difference.

Sincerely,

Ward Fansler, President

## Leaving a Legacy

*Cristo Rey High School is grateful to those who remember the school in their will and estate plans. For information on how you can increase your income, earn valuable tax deductions and reduce estate taxes, please contact our Development Office at 916-733-2660. Through our partnership with the Mercy Foundation, we have access to a variety of professionals to assist you.*

# Open to Growth. CORPORATE WORK-STUDY PROGRAM

## Educating the Whole Person

Preparing students for life beyond high school requires more than a solid classroom education. Students today must be ready for a competitive workforce requiring developed people skills and professional experience.

At Cristo Rey, our Corporate Work-Study program (CWS) connects students with entry-level professional jobs throughout the Sacramento area. Each student works five days per month, earning wages to offset their tuition while also gaining valuable soft skills and marketable job experience.

In order to prepare students for their jobs, Cristo Rey conducts a two week summer institute every year. Here, students learn valuable skills such as how to appropriately

dress for work, filing techniques, payroll duties, goal setting, records management, computer programs and communication skills including phone etiquette.

Despite students spending five days a month outside the classroom, Cristo Rey provides a competitive academic curriculum. Longer school days and smaller class sizes give students just as much classroom time as other college-preparatory schools.

Since opening in 2006, more and more local businesses are realizing the value of employing Cristo Rey students. Businesses love that the program provides an easy way to hire trained and motivated youth at a competitive salary, while also making an investment in our region's future workforce.

Currently, Cristo Rey students are working in the following industries:

- IT
- Arts & Entertainment
- Sales
- Construction
- Finance
- Civil Service
- Medical
- Government
- Legal
- Nonprofit



“This is our third year employing Cristo Rey High School Sacramento students, and we love it. We employ two positions, each covered by four students who share the workload. They answer the phone, greet clients, and perform basic office tasks. They're a tremendous help to our corporate office, and a cost-effective one, too! I encourage all businesses to consider a Cristo Rey partnership.”

—D. Lucchetti, President,  
Pacific Coast Companies, Inc.

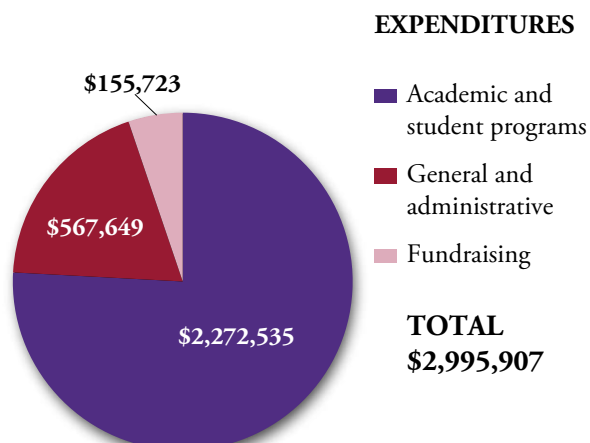
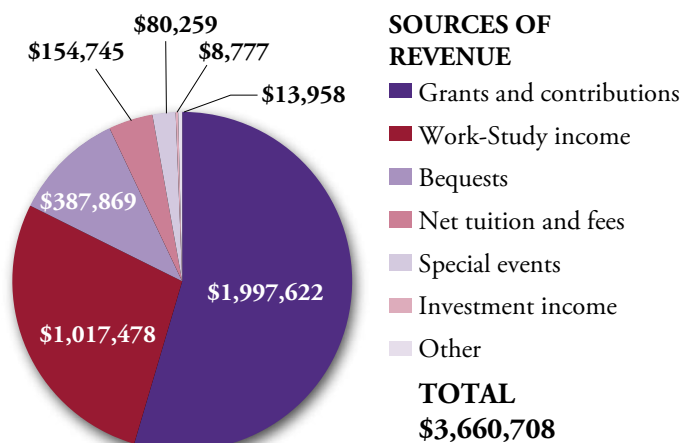
# Cristo Rey High School Sacramento 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

## CRISTO REY HIGH SCHOOL SACRAMENTO, INC CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES For the Year Ended June 30, 2008

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
<b>SUPPORT AND REVENUE</b>				
Grants and contributions	\$254,668	\$801,884	\$941,070	\$1,997,622
Work Study income	1,017,478	-	-	1,017,478
Bequests	-	-	387,869	387,869
Gross tuition and fees	424,432	-	-	424,432
Less: Financial aid and other discounts	(269,687)	-	-	(269,687)
Net tuition and fees	154,745	-	-	154,745
Special events, net of direct expenses of \$86,758	-	80,259	-	80,259
Investment income	6,404	-	2,373	8,777
Donated equipment and services	6,990	-	-	6,990
Miscellaneous revenue	6,968	-	-	6,968
<i>Net assets released from restrictions</i>	602,434	(600,061)	(2,373)	-
<b>TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE</b>	2,049,687	282,082	1,328,939	3,660,708
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
<i>Program services:</i>				
Academic and student programs	2,272,535	-	-	2,272,535
<i>Supporting services:</i>				
General and administrative	567,649	-	-	567,649
Fundraising	155,723	-	-	155,723
Total supporting services	723,372	-	-	723,372
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	2,995,907	-	-	2,995,907
<b>CHANGE IN NET ASSETS</b>	(946,220)	282,082	1,328,939	664,801
<b>NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>	1,062,196	124,783	100,450	1,287,429
<b>NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR</b>	\$115,976	\$406,865	\$1,429,389	\$1,952,230

A complete copy of the audited financial statements is available upon request.

### FINANCIAL INFORMATION



CRISTO REY HIGH SCHOOL SACRAMENTO, INC  
 CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF  
 FINANCIAL POSITION

At June 30, 2008

**ASSETS**

Cash and cash equivalents	\$53,530
Certificates of deposit	306,254
Pledges receivable	321,850
Accounts receivable	20,093
Tuition receivable, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$25,963	12,350
Leasehold improvements and equipment, net	1,213,099
Cash restricted for endowment	1,296,140
Investments restricted for endowment	113,249
	<hr/>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$3,336,565</u>

**LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS**

Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$396,936
Deferred revenue	93,399
Capital lease obligation	27,570
Line of credit	534,000
Note payable	332,430
	<hr/>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	1,384,335

**NET ASSETS**

Unrestricted	115,976
Temporarily restricted	406,865
Permanently restricted	1,429,389
TOTAL NET ASSETS	<u>1,952,230</u>
	<hr/>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u>\$3,336,565</u>

**Additional Thanks...**

*We deeply appreciate the generosity of parents, friends, corporations, foundations and other organizations that made gifts in-kind and matching gifts to Cristo Rey High School.*

2005-2008

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**\$1,000,000 and above**

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*Our entire list of benefactors can be found on-line at  
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## OUR STUDENTS, OUR STRENGTH



**M**ichael is a tall teenager, with curly hair and an easy smile. He looks like many other teenagers, except for the fact that it is the middle of a Thursday and he is dressed in slacks and wearing a tie. He is not like many other teenagers. He is a junior at Cristo Rey High School and by his own admission, the days are long and the schedule is hard. He divides his week between school, work, sports, and there is always homework and tests to study for.

But for Michael, this is where he wants to be. Michael grew up with gang members—both in his family and in his neighborhood—and much of his time was spent focused on the goal of the gang—to enlarge their territory and make their name known in the neighborhoods around where he grew up. There were drug deals and fights. Somehow he found his way to Cristo Rey, and although he was afraid to start school, afraid of what was new and afraid of the unknown, he knew for himself that he wanted an education and he wanted out of the lifestyle that he had been living. “I love my family,” he says, “but I also love my life and I needed to find a better way.” He traded in his colors for suit pants and a tie, and he stopped worrying about identifying with a group.

He was assigned a great job—a job he was really excited about—and he found out that people took him seriously,

treated him as if he were capable, respected his abilities. He thrived. What he has found in his three years at Cristo Rey is a home, a place where he is expected to set higher goals and he does. He has learned how to build and maintain true friendships in an environment where people want him to succeed.

When he looks back on his first year at Cristo Rey, he remembers the leap of faith he took in attending a brand new school that did not have heat in the winter or air-conditioning in the summer, and he remembers sitting in class with his coat and gloves on, trying to learn math.

“I love my family, but I also love my life and I needed to find a better way.”

Since that time he has come to realize that he wants to leave a mark on the world. “I want to leave some knowledge and wisdom,” he says. For Michael, he has academic knowledge and work experience wisdom to share—skills that he would’ve never found if he were still in a gang and trying to run the streets. What he realizes now is that attending this school has made him whole. He used to try to define himself by being someone different for every person that he met. Now he is one person, complete in himself, and he is proud of who he is.



# Talk, Listen, Learn - Lessons for a Lifetime.

When people ask Julia where she goes to school, she doesn't just answer, "Cristo Rey." She says, "Cristo Rey. Let me tell you about it." Julia is a sophomore who doesn't only recommend the school to outside friends and people that she meets, but she has become part of the school's inner-workings and joined the student leadership team not only to advocate for student activities but also to gain valuable experience for her future.

She was not always a student who was associated with "leadership." In fact, when she first came to Cristo Rey, she "tried to get into trouble" and "took the school as a joke" because she didn't care. Then she realized that Cristo Rey wasn't going to give up on her that easily, and that while she was not caring about school, school was caring about her.

She found a closeness that she had not experienced before. "In public school, you have maybe one teacher you can talk to and bond with," she says. "At this school, all of the teachers are there for me. I can tell any teacher my problems. I can talk to them, and they listen."

Not only has she found an important connection at school, but in her job as well. She works in a law firm and loves the experience so much that she is considering pursuing a career as a lawyer—or maybe a writer.

The future is wide open and all Julia knows for sure is that she is going to college and she wants a good career—and in that career she wants to be "high up"; she wants to lead. She knows that Cristo Rey is going to get her there. In public school, Julia wasn't motivated to succeed, but at Cristo Rey, she knows that there are expectations for her and she wants to meet them.

When she gets up in the morning and puts on her professional clothes for school, she lives up to the image that she presents. Julia acknowledges that she has changed from who she used to be, and that change she has made is a good one. "Change is

## The Graduate at Graduation

Upon completing four years of study and working at a Corporate Work-Study position, a Cristo Rey High School Sacramento graduate takes away much more than a diploma. A Cristo Rey student at graduation is:

- Open to Growth
- Religious
- Intellectually Competent
- Loving
- Committed to Justice
- Work Competent



hard," she says, "but it's not so bad." She used to feel lost in the crowd at public school, part of the numbers, but now she feels important and close to her teachers and to the students around her.

She is looking toward her future, and while she isn't certain about the exact college she wants to attend or the career she wants to have, she can see one thing for sure. "I'm going to cry when I graduate from Cristo Rey."

“At this school, all of the teachers are there for me. I can talk to them, and they listen.”



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