



The Hill Center<sup>SM</sup>

# YEAR IN REVIEW 2016

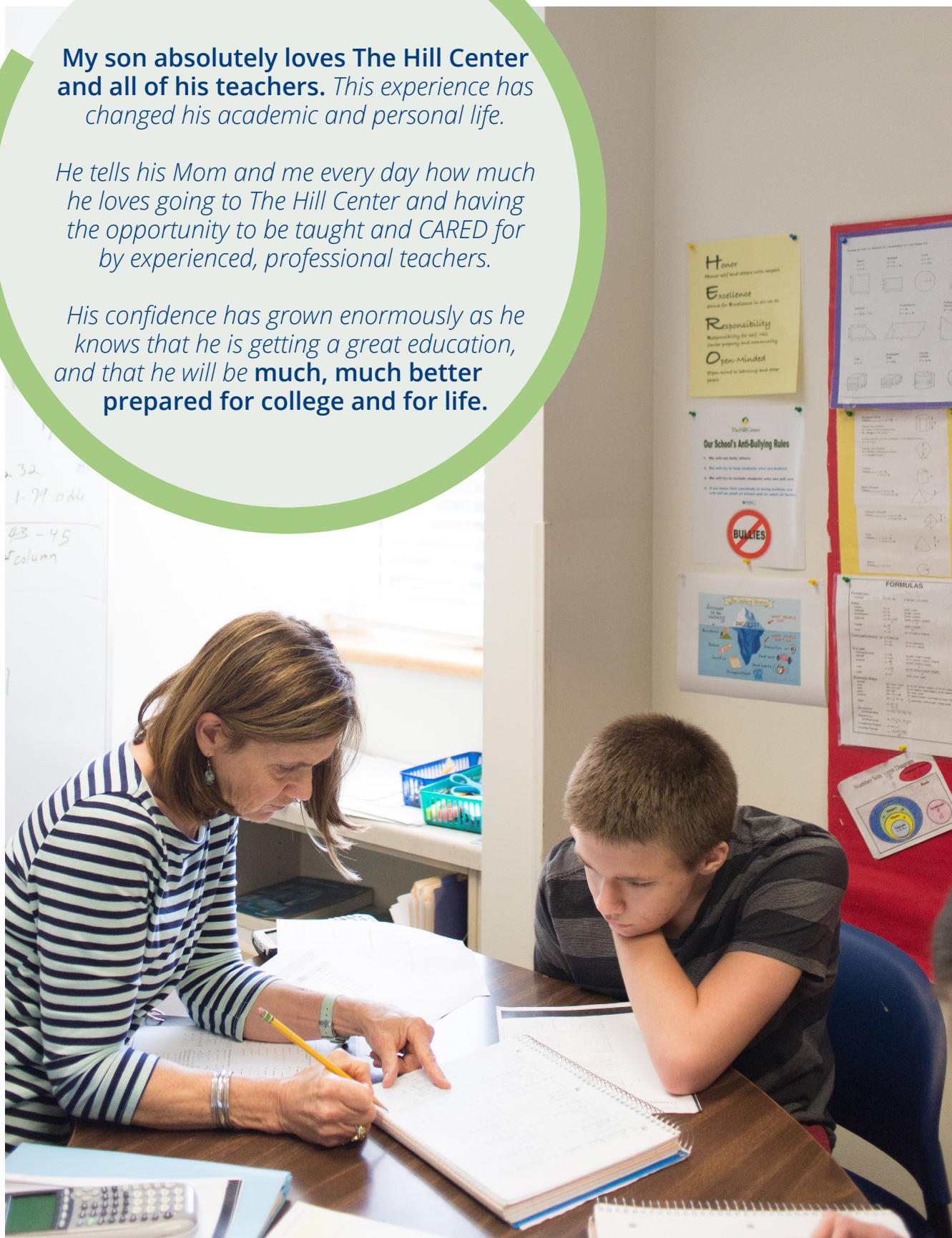




**My son absolutely loves The Hill Center and all of his teachers.** *This experience has changed his academic and personal life.*

*He tells his Mom and me every day how much he loves going to The Hill Center and having the opportunity to be taught and CARED for by experienced, professional teachers.*

*His confidence has grown enormously as he knows that he is getting a great education, and that he will be **much, much better** prepared for college and for life.*



# MESSAGE FROM HILL LEADERSHIP



**“We’re committed to strengthening and expanding our learning solutions for students, educators, and families.”**

As we approach our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, we know the need for The Hill Center’s programs is greater than ever.

**One in five children struggle mightily in school** due to learning or attention issues. Many others fall behind due to language barriers or foundational gaps resulting from growing up in poverty.

The statistics are startling. For example, **only 53% of North Carolina 8<sup>th</sup> graders read on grade level, and only 45% perform proficiently in math.** Students who cannot read, write, and do math successfully lose confidence, which leaves them ill-equipped to contribute to the workforce of tomorrow.

But here’s what we know: instructional strategies and supports developed for students with diagnosed learning differences can help all children reach their potential in school, and in life.

That’s why we’re committed to strengthening and expanding our learning solutions for students, educators, and families across four platforms: Student Programs, Hill Learning System, Educator Professional Learning, and Community Education.

What makes our approach distinctly Hill is that we ground our work in research, practice, and our core values. Over the last year, we have also made an even greater commitment to embracing diversity and expanding access and affordability.

We couldn’t do any of this critical work without the support of an extensive network of Hill families, foundations, corporations, and friends committed to giving the gift of learning to students and teachers across the state of North Carolina.

**Thank you! This report highlights the progress your investments have made possible.** Together, we will continue to empower students who need additional support to become confident, independent learners.

Beth Anderson, Executive Director

# CELEBRATING HILL'S CORE VALUES

Hill faculty, staff, and trustees engaged in a review of our organizational values this year in order to ensure that they reflect the genuine behaviors that already distinguish The Hill Center and that should persist and define our work no matter what changes we face internally or externally. We are pleased to announce and celebrate our new core values. Our service to students, educators, and families is deeply rooted in these commitments:

## We Learn

We are lifelong learners. We approach all that we do with a growth mindset and a commitment to continuous learning and improvement. We learn from our students, our colleagues, other educators, and our partners. We seek out and embrace new ideas while remaining true to strategies we know work.

## We Empower

We empower students to take charge of their own learning and lives. We empower teachers to use their knowledge, skills, and creativity to lead students to success. We empower staff to discover new and better ways of doing things.



## We Reach

We strive to reach an ever-increasing number of students, teachers, and schools to support their growth and success. We partner to extend our reach, expand our expertise, and learn from others. We challenge and support students, teachers, our partners, and our colleagues to reach their full potential.

## We Relate

We develop personal relationships with students, parents, teachers, colleagues, and partners. We empathize. We listen. We communicate. We collaborate. We connect. We relate.

## We Care

We care about students and their families. We care about teachers. We care about each other. We care about making a difference in students' lives, in schools and school districts, and in our community.

Serving families, educators, and  
communities since 1977.



# OUR COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY AND INCLUSIVENESS

Led by board member Andy Short, Hill's Diversity and Inclusiveness Committee began its work in the fall of the 2015-16 school year. It can be said that **The Hill Center was founded in 1977 on principles of inclusion and diversity:** in creating a half-day model school, founder George Watts Hill sought to establish a program in which children who learn differently—and who were being marginalized or failing to thrive in mainstream schools—could be helped to achieve academic success and realize their full potential.

Today, The Hill Center is a diverse learning community of students, educators, and parents spanning North Carolina and beyond. Why, then, did we need a formal statement of diversity and inclusiveness? Hill's mission uniquely positions us to celebrate and embrace differences. **At our core, we value cognitive differences and the distinctive strengths they offer individuals and society.** We believe we must continue to build upon this foundation and the diverse populations we already serve to more intentionally reflect, understand, and embrace differences across race, ethnicity, gender, economics, and viewpoints. Only then will we truly be the learning community we aspire to be.

The following statement grew out of months of conversation among faculty, staff, board members, community members, and experts in topics related to diversity, equity, and inclusion:

**The Hill Center believes all children can succeed and deserve educational experiences that develop their full potential. We strive to create diverse, inclusive, safe, and equitable learning environments representative of the communities we serve. We acknowledge, celebrate, and honor diversity, which has many dimensions including learning styles, race, ethnicity, gender, religion, sexual orientation, and economic background. Therefore, we actively identify strategic goals and implement policies that strengthen our diverse community. This commitment is crucial to our ability to value each individual and ensure the success of children and educators.**

Going forward, an expanded committee led by faculty and staff is engaging the Hill community in a year of learning and discovery to operationalize this statement and advance our commitment to diversity and inclusiveness across all of our programs.

## Special thanks to all Diversity and Inclusiveness Committee Members:

### Advisors:

**Jessica DeCuir-Gunby**, Associate Professor of Educational Psychology, N.C. State University  
**Diane Evia-Lanevi**, Executive Director, Tomorrow Fund  
**Lisa Guckian**, Senior Director, Leadership for Educational Equity and Hill Board Member  
**Kemi Nonez**, Director of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs and Assistant Director of Admissions, Durham Academy  
**Andrew Short**, Psychologist and Hill Board Member  
**Alexandra Zagbayou**, Executive Director, Student U and Hill Board Member

### Hill Faculty and Staff:

**Carrie Anazia**, Hill Lower School Faculty  
**Beth Anderson**, Hill Executive Director  
**Bryan Brander**, Hill Head of School  
**Glynis Hill-Chandler**, Hill Assistant Head of School and Dean of Students  
**Darius Horton**, Hill Middle School Faculty  
**Katie Mgongolwa**, Hill Upper School Faculty  
**Michelle Orvis**, Hill Chief of Staff  
**Magan Thigpen**, Hill Manager of East Durham Learning Collaborative  
**Jennifer Thompson**, Hill Upper School Faculty  
**Jeanne Tilley**, Hill Manager of Grants and Communications

# KENAN CHARITABLE TRUST

## AWARDS \$650,000 CHALLENGE GRANT

### School Partners



Y.E. Smith Elementary  
Museum School

### Supporting Partners



Thanks to a \$650,000 challenge grant from the William R. Kenan, Jr. Charitable Trust and generous contributions from other philanthropic leaders, Hill has launched the **East Durham Learning Collaborative**. This project symbolizes Hill's commitment to core values, diversity, and accessibility.

**In East Durham, only 30% of 3<sup>rd</sup> graders read on grade level.** The East Durham Learning Collaborative brings the research-based Hill Reading Achievement Program (HillRAP) to five public schools in East Durham – including three charter and two district schools – that serve high-need populations of students. This partnership aims to close early literacy gaps through the HillRAP intervention, targeted teacher training and coaching, and collaborative efforts across the five schools.

In addition to funders, The Hill Center, and the participating schools, the Learning Collaborative includes a network of partners that collectively support the project goals, including Durham Public Schools, the East Durham Children's Initiative, and N.C. State University's Friday Institute for Educational Innovation researchers.

By establishing East Durham as a pilot site for the Hill Learning System (see page 10), providing intensive remediation for students and extensive training for teachers, and establishing forums for shared learning across all partners, the impact of this initiative will endure long after the project is complete – **building capacity in these schools and a model for others.**

### The East Durham Learning Collaborative is possible thanks to:

Anonymous  
Mr. Anthony Alvarez  
Mr. and Mrs. Lex K. Larson  
Ms. Beth Anderson and  
Mr. Ed Anderson  
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Anderson  
Mr. and Mrs. Anthony S. Brown  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert T. Cadwallader Jr.  
Duke University Chapel Congregation

Durham Merchants Association  
Charitable Foundation, *in honor of Charles and Vickie Atwater*  
Dr. and Mrs. Jon Fjeld  
Fox Family Foundation, Inc.  
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Mr. Parker Gilbert  
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William R. Kenan, Jr. Charitable Trust  
North Carolina GlaxoSmithKline Foundation

Mr. and Mrs. Todd Owen  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Phay  
Mrs. Heather Rosenstein  
Dr. and Mrs. Robert S. Shepard  
Mr. and Mrs. Guy T. Solie  
Ms. Sofia Stafford  
Mr. Mark S. Trustin and  
Dr. Marcia A. Angle  
Mr. Lucas Wolf

You can help ensure our success, and help more students learn to read, by responding to the Kenan Challenge today. To make a gift to the East Durham Learning Collaborative, please visit [www.hillcenter.org/donate](http://www.hillcenter.org/donate).



# OUR COMMITMENT TO ACCESS AND AFFORDABILITY

## N.C. GlaxoSmithKline Foundation Awards \$1.2 Million Grant to Support Diversity, Inclusiveness, and Access

Over the next four years, this landmark grant from the NC GlaxoSmithKline Foundation will increase access to and affordability of Hill's programs in three key areas:

- Providing financial aid to our Student Programs, including two full scholarships for students from underrepresented communities (see below)
- Increasing access for public school teachers and school districts across North Carolina to Hill's training opportunities, reading methodology, and the Hill Learning System (see page 10)
- Supporting the East Durham Learning Collaborative (see page 6)

The North Carolina GlaxoSmithKline Foundation has been instrumental in Hill's growth over the years, starting with supporting the initial development of our teacher training program in 1990. We are grateful for their continued investment in expanding our programs.

### Gifts to Financial Aid Critical to Expansion of Access and Affordability

Learning differences do not discriminate by socio-economic status—and families rarely set up savings accounts with hopes of sending their children to The Hill Center. For these reasons, increasing the funds available for student financial aid for our flagship School Year Program is key to our ability to expand access and affordability. While we have increased our financial aid budget in recent years, endowed funds only provide 40 percent of the annual budget. Consequently, only 20 percent of Hill families receive aid, and we are only able to meet 50 percent of their demonstrated need.

We know many families do not consider, apply to, or enroll at Hill due to the gap between tuition and the aid Hill can offer. Sustaining and growing our financial aid program is dependent on the success of Hill Mile and the generosity of private donors. We are pleased to announce the creation of two new scholarship funds this year:

#### North Carolina GlaxoSmithKline Foundation Scholarships

As part of its 4-year, \$1.2 million dollar grant, the North Carolina GlaxoSmithKline Foundation established two full scholarships for underrepresented minority students.

#### Frances Moschler Heard Financial Aid Endowment

Established by family and friends in memory of Frances Moschler Heard, mother of William Heard who attended Hill from 2000 to 2005.

Please see page 15 for a list of other permanent endowment funds for student financial aid. Join these "Hill Heroes" by considering an annual gift to student financial aid or a permanent endowment fund in honor or in memory of a loved one.

I am so glad to be at the Hill Center because I can learn reading and stay in the same place in math at my other school. and keep my old friends and make new ones. Help my brother with his homework. And do fun stuff like the Hill Mile and the Halloween Parade. Oh yeah, get my degree and become a scientist. Thank you!

*A Hill School Year Program student shares his gratitude for being a recipient of the NC GlaxoSmithKline Foundation scholarship.*

# STUDENT PROGRAMS

Hill's Student Programs - the School Year Program, Summer School, and Tutoring - are the bedrock of Hill, providing a continuum of services to help local students with learning differences and attention challenges achieve academic and life success. These programs not only deliver powerful learning experiences for students, but also help us continually develop new solutions to disseminate to more students, educators, and families.

## Investing in Faculty of the Future

The Hill Center strives to empower not only our students, but also the faculty who work with them. Hill is distinguished by an effective teaching methodology but, even more importantly, by our deeply devoted and highly skilled educators who bring it to life. For this reason, Hill takes continuous learning and professional development seriously. Each year, Hill supports members of the faculty pursuing master's programs to join the 85% of Hill faculty who currently have master's degrees. In addition, we fund a two-year coaching and mentoring program for new teachers, conference attendance, and on-site workshops led by experts in the field. Professional development programs are more important than ever for Hill as many of our 30-year veteran teachers are retiring. New faculty, like Kate Christensen, will define The Hill Center's next 40 years.

## Meet Kate Christensen '08

Kate is the first former Hill student to become a full-time faculty member, making her uniquely qualified to teach and inspire our students. Kate has earned awards as a student and alumna that acknowledged her hard work, academic progress and perseverance. And Kate is not done achieving yet! Through our Faculty Professional Development Program, Hill is helping Kate complete her Master of Education (M.Ed.), with a concentration in Special Education, at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

With passionate faculty like Kate Christensen and funds for ongoing professional development, Hill is poised to further its impact on students with learning differences today and beyond.



**"I am humbled, honored, and happy to call myself a teacher at The Hill Center."**

**Kate Christensen, Hill Alumna and Faculty Member**

"Our core values make for a great culture at Hill, but our teaching salaries lag behind the public schools. Continuing to recruit and retain the best faculty is paramount to our value proposition and our funding for professional development makes an important difference. Like our students, each faculty member has an individualized professional growth plan. Our teachers want to learn, innovate, and teach each other. This is part of The Hill Center magic that must be maintained at all cost," says Head of School Bryan Brander. "The investment in our faculty has a ripple effect, not only on our students but in reaching other teachers across the state through our Educator Professional Learning program."



## Hill Mile Raises \$35,000 for Scholarships

Thank you to everyone who supported our Second Annual Hill Mile Race and Kids' Dash!

The day included three different events and lots of non-athletic fun for the entire Hill community.

### Many thanks to our event sponsors:

The Brough Law Firm, PLLC  
Durham Pediatric Dentistry & Orthodontics  
Lakewood Pediatrics & Family Medicine

Lanier Law Group, P.A.  
Theresa B. Robinson, DMD  
Tammy R. Severt, D.D.S., P.A.  
Smith Orthodontics

### And thanks to our in-kind donors:

The Durham Hotel  
Fleet Feet Sports: Carrboro & Durham  
The Franklin Hotel  
HALO Branded Solutions  
i9 Sports Sports Office: Durham, Chapel Hill, Carrboro  
Long Beverage Inc.  
Sports Endeavors

The 2017 Hill Mile is scheduled for April 23rd. All proceeds will support student financial aid at Hill.

Mark your calendars and visit [www.hillcenter.org/hillmile](http://www.hillcenter.org/hillmile) to get involved!

## Investing in Innovation: Executive Functioning

Another way that Hill supports faculty – and its own continuous improvement – is through funding to develop new curriculum for use in all student programs.

Veteran teacher Geraldine Pesacreta has developed new executive functioning offerings based on years of experience and success with Hill students.

Executive Functioning addresses how students learn and what tools to use to remember information, tasks, and deadlines.

Our new coaching and courses help students grow in four core areas - preparedness, focus, advocacy, and specific learning skills - and explicitly teach the time and project management strategies they need to learn and study independently.

Thanks to support from a generous donor who invested in curriculum design, three new program options are available to boost students' executive functioning skills:

- One-on-One Coaching through Hill Tutoring
- Group After-School Study Skills Classes for middle schoolers
- Summer Study, a five-week learning experience for rising 7<sup>th</sup> through 9<sup>th</sup> graders

In addition, Geraldine offers workshops for teachers and parents—and they are receiving rave reviews!



# HILL LEARNING SYSTEM

The Hill Learning System capitalizes on technology to better serve more teachers and students across North Carolina and beyond. It has three major components:

- A tablet-based app for delivering the Hill Reading Achievement Program (HillRAP) by trained teachers anywhere
- An online teacher portal for professional development and ongoing resources
- A platform for data collection, analysis, and reporting to track student progress

With support from several major donors, the Hill Learning System is currently being piloted in 8 North Carolina public school districts and 6 individual schools.



## Carteret County Embraces Hill Learning System

The Hill Center and Carteret County Public Schools have been working together for more than ten years. As a result of our strong partnership, the school system served as a beta-site for the Hill Learning System last year. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive and showed that the technology-enabled platform boosted the impact of Carteret's reading program by:

- Offering a flexible yet structured program that is easy to adopt, adapt, and integrate into classrooms
- Effectively engaging students in learning the foundations of reading
- Empowering teachers with real-time data at their fingertips



Not only are students and teachers loving the flexibility and fun of the Hill Learning System, it is paying dividends for student success: students using the tool showed an average 1.5 years' growth on the NC End of Grade tests!

**We are grateful to the generous donors who have supported the partnership between Hill and the Carteret County Public Schools.**

Anonymous  
Big Rock Blue Marlin Tournament  
Mr. and Mrs. Karl D. Blackley  
Mr. and Mrs. W. Douglas Brady  
Carteret County Public  
School Foundation  
Mr. Lynn Eury

Mr. and Mrs. Victor I. Flow Jr.  
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Mr. and Mrs. Julian Rawl  
Mr. and Mrs. Art Schools  
Mr. and Mrs. Stedman Stevens

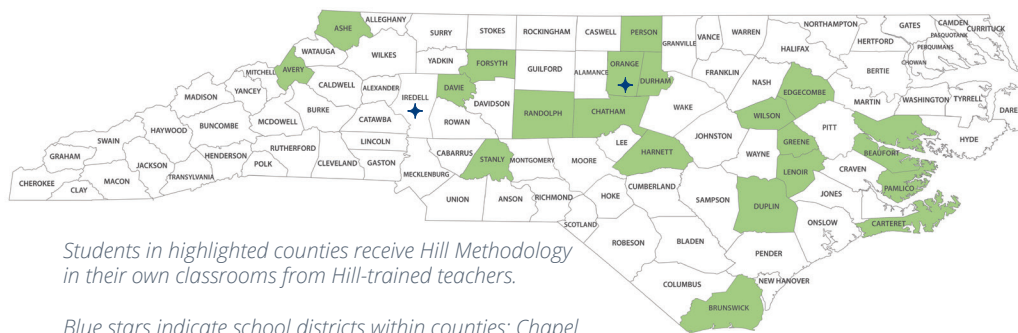
Special thanks to the  
**Big Rock Blue Marlin  
Tournament**  
for their commitment to  
education in Carteret  
County. Their \$50,000  
contribution provided new  
iPads for teachers and  
students in 25 classrooms  
to use the Hill  
Learning System!



# EDUCATOR PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

Hill's Educator Professional Learning solutions provide teachers with in-person and online training to aid and equip them with the tools to effectively teach students who learn differently.

Hill draws on its own faculty and in-house trainers, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction trainers, and leading experts to deliver professional development in Hill methodologies, literacy and math instruction, and other instructional strategies to support their students.



*Students in highlighted counties receive Hill Methodology in their own classrooms from Hill-trained teachers.*

*Blue stars indicate school districts within counties: Chapel Hill - Carrboro City Schools and Mooreville Graded School District.*

In partnership with public school districts and philanthropists across the state, Hill also trains educators to deliver the Hill Reading Achievement Program as a literacy intervention for struggling learners.

**Over 90% of the students who used the Hill Reading Achievement Program showed improvements in their literacy skills as measured by standard assessments.**

## Serving Students

**1,587** students received Hill reading methodology in their classroom

## Empowering Educators

**86** teachers became certified in Hill's methodology; **1,842** teachers attended other Hill trainings

**\$75,830** in scholarship funds were distributed to **298 teachers** across the state

## Community Support

Thank you to our philanthropic partners who make this work possible:

**Avery and Ashe Counties:** Mr. and Mrs. Melvin C. Fields; High Country Charitable Foundation; Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Ormond; Mrs. Laura C. Russell and Reverend Theophilus Russell

**Edgecombe County:** The Barnhill Family Foundation; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Barnhill, Jr.

**Greene County:** The BelleJAR Foundation

**Mooreville Graded School District:** The Mebane Foundation

**Orange County:** Anonymous; Education Foundation for Orange County Schools; Mr. and Mrs. George A. Horton, III;

**Stanly County:** Foundation for the Carolinas; Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Rogers, Jr.

**Teacher Scholarships:** BB&T Charitable Foundation; Duke Energy Foundation; Durham Merchants Association Charitable Foundation; Dr. Nancy J. Farmer and Dr. Everette James; F.M. Kirby Foundation; NC GlaxoSmithKline Foundation; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Neville; Strowd Roses Charitable Foundation; Town of Carrboro; Wells Fargo Foundation

*Please see page 10 for supporters of Carteret County and page 6 for supporters of the East Durham Learning Collaborative.*

# COMMUNITY EDUCATION

## Community Education Series

Hill's Community Education Series engages and educates our community about topics related to the science of learning and learning styles. The series, free and open to the public, provides practical resources and information that are both grounded in research and accessible to all audiences.

An all-star line-up of speakers drew hundreds of participants to The Hill Center in 2016. The series is free thanks to the generous support of Morris Commercial of Chapel Hill, NC. Distinguished Hill alumni Scott Morris '01 and Whit Brannon '00 work at Morris Commercial.

We are grateful to Morris Commercial, Scott and Elizabeth Broyhill Morris, Johnny Morris, and Waynell Morris for their support in honor of longtime educator Jean Healy Neville. Mrs. Neville was a founding member of the Hill faculty and helped launch our Educator Professional Learning program. She has provided the gift of learning to thousands of students across the state and remains a steadfast champion for The Hill Center and our students.



**MORRIS**  
COMMERCIAL



*Pictured: Scott Morris, Hill alum; Jean Healy Neville; and Elizabeth Broyhill Morris.*



*"I feel more confident at my other school. People used to mess with me because I didn't know how to read but now I can!"*

## Boys & Girls Club Partnership

Hill also serves community organizations through partnerships with nonprofits like the **Boys & Girls Club of Greater Durham** and supporters like the **Carolina Hurricanes Kids n' Community Foundation**.

Struggling readers from the Boys & Girls Club come to Hill after school twice per week during the school year to receive Hill's reading methodology from Hill-trained tutors. Students, and their parents, appreciate the program not only for the reading gains they demonstrate, but also because the opportunity to attend Hill makes them feel special.



# 2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## Officers

Mr. George A. "Trig" Horton III, Chair  
 Mr. Charles S. Atwater, Jr. '93, Vice Chair  
 Ms. Beth Anderson, President  
 Ms. Michelle Orvis, Secretary  
 Mr. Richard Rosenberg, Treasurer

## Lifetime Members

Mr. Charles S. Atwater, Sr.  
 Mr. Brad Brinegar  
 Mrs. Anne Gibson Hill\*  
 Mr. Robert A. Ingram  
 Ms. Allison Haltom McClay  
 Mr. Charles "Bucky" Oliver  
 Mr. Robert E. Whalen

## Directors

Dr. Paula Borden '94, Alumni Representative  
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 Mr. Barker French  
 Ms. Lisa Guckian  
 Ms. Kathy McKee  
 Ms. Lynne Loeser  
 Mr. Damian Makarushka  
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 Dr. David Riddle  
 Dr. Andrew Short  
 Mr. Mark Trustin  
 Mr. Michael Ulku-Steiner, *ex-officio*  
 Ms. Laura Horton Virkler  
 Ms. Carol Fitch Walker  
 Dr. Michael Yarborough  
 Ms. Alexandra Zagbayou

*\*deceased*

## Meet Paula Borden '94

Dr. Paula Borden, Ph.D., joined the Hill board in 2016 as an alumni representative. Paula attended the School Year Program from 1987-1994, and her time at Hill helped her develop a passion for education. Since leaving Hill as a student, Paula has earned a B.S. from Wingate University, an M.A. in Counselor Education from N.C. Central University, and a Ph.D. from NC A&T State University in Leadership Studies.

She currently serves as the Associate Director, Carolina Higher Education Opportunity Programs and Associate Director, NC Health Careers Access Program where she pays it forward by ensuring that all students at the university access the resources they need to be successful. We are thrilled to welcome Paula back to Hill as an alumni representative to the board!

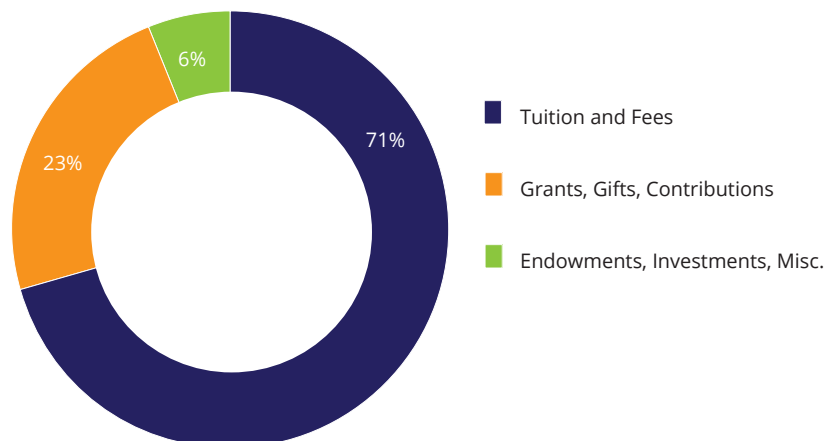
# 2015-16 FINANCES

Since 1999, Hill's first full year as a 501(c)3 non-profit, independent auditors have issued an unqualified opinion each year, reporting that the financial statements are presented fairly in all material respects and are in accordance with accounting principals generally accepted in the U.S.

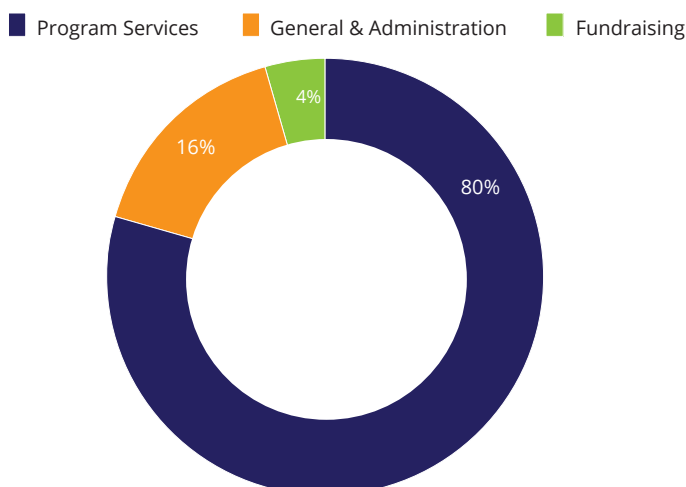
## Sources of Funds: Revenues

Operating revenue totaled \$6.55M in 2015-16.

Primarily due to School Year program tuition, tuition and fees revenues were the largest source of funds.



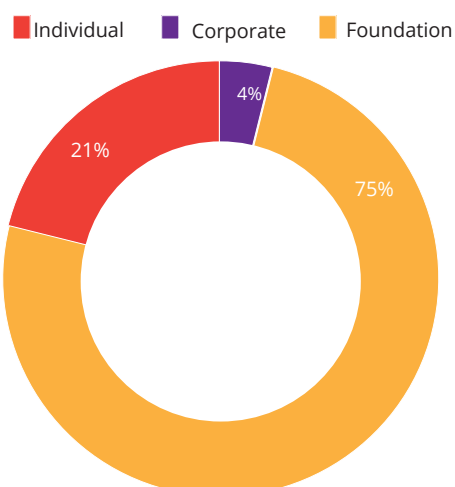
## Uses of Funds: Expenses



During 2015-16, The Hill Center spent 80 cents out of every dollar directly on program services.

Operating expenses were \$6.59M.

## Fundraising: Gifts, Contributions, and Grants



Foundation and individual gifts in support of school district partnerships, teacher scholarships, and student financial aid to the School Year Program comprised the majority of contributions.

Total 2015-16 fundraising revenues were \$1.53M.



# THE HILL CENTER ENDOWMENT

Throughout The Hill Center's history, families have established named endowment funds to provide lasting support for Hill operations, student financial aid, and faculty professional development. Our endowment is a collection of various restricted and unrestricted funds which totals \$7,841,857 (6/30/16 market value).

## General Endowment Funds

George Watts Hill Foundation  
Anne Gibson Hill Endowment  
The George W. Brumley III Family Endowment  
Margaret Holt McLean Endowment



## Student Financial Aid

The Buck Family Scholarship Fund  
Fields Family Financial Aid Endowment  
F.M. Kirby Financial Aid Endowment  
Frances Moschler Heard Financial Aid Endowment  
GlaxoSmithKline Financial Aid Endowment  
Heim Financial Aid Endowment  
Peyton Brooks Strickland Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Timothy N. Whiting Student Scholarship Fund



## Educator Professional Development

Kirby-Horton Endowment for Hill Faculty  
Lucy T. Davis Professional Development Endowment  
Master Mentor Endowment  
North Carolina Teachers Endowment

*For more information about establishing a permanent endowment fund or including The Hill Center in your estate plans, please contact Emily Oliver at 919-719-7539.*

# HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

## Hill Champions

(\$100,000 and above)

Mr. and Mrs. Melvin C. Fields  
 Fox Family Foundation, Inc.  
 Goodnight Educational Foundation\*  
 F. M. Kirby Foundation, Inc.\*  
 Mebane Charitable Foundation, Inc.\*  
 North Carolina GlaxoSmithKline Foundation  
 Oak Foundation - Learning Differences Programme\*  
 Mr. and Mrs. Charles Oliver II\*  
 Mr. and Mrs. Arthur H. Rogers Jr.  
 William R. Kenan, Jr. Charitable Trust

## The George Watts Hill

### Society

(\$10,000 - \$99,999)

Anonymous  
 Barnhill Family Foundation  
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Barnhill Jr.  
 The BelleJAR Foundation\*  
 Carolina Hurricanes Kids 'N Community Foundation\*  
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### Society

(\$5,000 - \$9,999)

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*in memory of Frances Heard*  
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 Strowd Roses Charitable Foundation

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(\$2,500 - \$4,999)

Ms. Beth Anderson and Mr. Ed Anderson  
 Ms. Kathryn E. Bell  
 Durham Merchants Charitable Foundation,  
*in honor of Charles and Vickie Atwater*  
 Education Foundation for Orange County Schools  
 Dr. and Mrs. Jon Fjeld  
 Mr. and Mrs. George A. Horton III  
 Dr. Richard M. Jones and Dr. Theresa Robinson  
 Mr. and Mrs. Jonathon Kadis  
 Mr. Thomas Kenan III  
 Mr. and Mrs. David G. Martin Jr.  
 Mr. and Mrs. Timothy D. Proctor,  
*in honor of Ms. Katherine McKee*  
 Dr. and Mrs. David Riddle\*  
 Dr. and Mrs. Michael L. Russell,  
*in honor of Nancy Russell*  
 Theresa B. Robinson, DMD

## Thank you to our generous community of supporters.

This annual report recognizes all donations received by The Hill Center between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016. This listing also includes sponsorships and donations to the Hill Mile. Every attempt was made to ensure accuracy in this publication; however, errors do occur and we apologize for any inconvenience they may cause. Please contact the Advancement Office at 919-719-7539 for any corrections.

\*indicates an installment of a multi-year commitment

# HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

## The Director's Circle

(\$1,500 - \$2,499)

Mr. and Mrs. George A. Arky  
BB&T Charitable Foundation  
Ms. Katherine L. McKee\*,  
*in memory of James Quentin Mallard*  
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Moylan,  
*in honor of Sue Duncan and Carrie Anazia*  
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Pappas  
Mr. and Mrs. Jay L. Peters  
Mr. and Mrs. James O. Shelley

## Visionaries

(\$750 - \$1,499)

Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Battle Jr.  
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Carteret County Public School Foundation  
Mr. Lynn Eury  
Fleet Feet Sports: Carrboro & Durham  
The Honorable Orlando F. Hudson and  
Ms. Marilyn Foote-Hudson  
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# SERVING FAMILIES, EDUCATORS AND COMMUNITIES

## Serving Students

**175** students attended Hill's School Year Program, from **63** local base-schools across **6** counties

**368** students attended Hill Tutoring sessions in Durham,

**68** received tutoring in Raleigh, and

**135** met tutors in other settings including after-school programs

**132** total students attended Hill's Summer Program in either Durham or Raleigh

**1,587** students received Hill reading methodology in their classrooms across North Carolina

## In Their Voices

"I have been a student at The Hill Center for six years. With the help from Hill, I am now a more proficient reader and can answer comprehension questions way more easily than I had ever imagined."

"Thank you so much for supporting The Hill Center! **If it were not for people like you**, the teachers at Hill and teachers from other schools would not be able to get the proper training they need to help all students learn the way they need to learn."

**"You have made a great impact** by enabling teachers to get the training they need to help students like me and my classmates be successful in school and in the real world."

## Empowering Educators

**62** counties sent public school teachers to professional development trainings at The Hill Center

**\$75,830** in scholarship funds were distributed to **298** teachers across the state

**19** school districts or individual schools were HillRAP Partner Sites in 2015-16

**86** teachers became certified in Hill's methodology; **1,842** teachers attended other Hill trainings

**85%** of faculty at Hill have Master's Degrees in education

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We are proud and grateful to report that in 2015-16, 100% of Hill's faculty and staff supported the organization.

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# CELEBRATING HILL ALUMNI

Every year, The Road Less Traveled Award is presented to a Hill alumnus who has demonstrated remarkable perseverance and is a shining example of what a confident, independent learner can achieve and whose accomplishments are often a direct result of the challenges he or she has overcome.

Major Taylor Shenkman '01 is someone who knows something about working towards a dream. At age five, Taylor decided he wanted to be a pilot. His mother said he watched "Top Gun" practically every day for the better part of 10 years. But it's a long road from kindergarten to the U.S. Naval Fighter Weapons School, and Taylor spent many of those years with us at The Hill Center. At Hill he learned not only the foundational reading and math he needed to succeed in school, but also the organization skills, persistence, and self-confidence that would help him drive toward his dreams.

After graduation from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps – and finished training as the top Marine in his class. Major Shenkman's list of honors, achievements, and services to our country over the last decade are numerous and impressive. But he is particularly proud of one recent accomplishment: in 2015, Major Shenkman graduated from the U.S. Naval Fighter Weapons School (TOPGUN), fulfilling the dream he had since he was a little boy.

Few people have the determination, stamina, and drive to follow through on a goal they set in childhood. Major Shenkman did just that, achieving a level of success in his field very few people ever attain. He has served his country with honor and distinction, and we are proud to call him one of our own.



Top Photo:  
Major Taylor Shenkman, center, with L-R  
former teacher Mrs. Jean Healy Neville;  
mother Mrs. Laura Shenkman;  
former teacher Mrs. Sara Gray Wiley Horne;  
father Mr. Ed Shenkman

Bottom Photo:  
Major Shenkman addressing the  
Hill Senior Class of 2016





Our Mission:  
Transform students with learning differences  
into confident, independent learners.

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