September 2018



Each year, it becomes more evident how we depend on each other and value the relationships rooted within our Community. No time has our School's community needed your help more, than during the past three years. From job losses related to economic downturn, to the flooding from Hurricane Harvey, both have had devastating effects on our local community, which are still felt today.

Yet, <u>through your generous gifts of emotional, physical and financial support</u>, all affected families received much needed help to overcome great difficulty. One of the many comforting forms of help came from the MEFI and School, which offered **a bridge in tuition expenses** to families in need, in order to continue their child's Montessori education, attending a school they love! A word from one family who received our help:

"When most everything changed in our children's lives: our house, neighbors to all the things we used in our daily life, having support from the School and MHFC community was fundamental for our family, especially for my children's emotional wellbeing".

Today, we launch our MEFI Annual Benefit Drive. Our goal is \$15,000 and we aim for 100% participation. Any amount you give will continue making positive differences!

In addition to tuition assistance, the MEFI **contributes towards professional development**. The Schools' budgets allocate an average of 30,000 each year to training and development of teachers and staff. Your gift to MEFI helps make it possible for teachers and staff to attend <u>additional</u>, <u>specialized professional</u> <u>development</u>, <u>including out-of-state national Montessori conferences</u>.

As our thank you, contributors will be invited to our 1^{st} annual, PAV sponsored **MEFI Legacy Social** happening February 22^{nd} – an adult social event with music, hors d'oeuvres, cocktails and auction items.

To support the MEFI Annual Benefit, <u>click HERE</u>. For more detailed information about the MEFI, donation levels, and how funds have been distributed in prior years, as well as other ways you can support this important cause <u>click HERE</u>.

MEFI is a 501c(3) public charity and your donations are eligible for tax deductions subject to IRS regulations.

Thank you for being a part of the Montessori Family and supporting the MEFI Annual Benefit.

Warmly, Parent Association of Volunteers (PAV)

Antonieta Alvarez-Cadiz, President Katherine Clair, Vice President Margie El-Moussa, Treasure Evelyn Tirmizi, Secretary

