



Deblasio Family Foundation

2025

OUR JOURNEY SO FAR

DFF Board of Trustees



JACK
DEBLASIO



SARAH
DEBLASIO



HEATHER
HOLMES DEBLASIO



JOHN
DEBLASIO

Dear friends and colleagues,

We hope this newsletter finds you well. It's been a busy and rewarding year so far for the **DeBlasio Family Foundation** (DFF). Our trustees have been actively expanding their philanthropic work across a variety of areas, including local transit, environmental sustainability, civic engagement, veterans' support services, elder care, animal rescue, and the arts, and so much more.

We're grateful for your interest and support in helping us champion the following important and impactful organizations.

Wishing you a warm Holiday season ahead.

John, Heather, Sarah, Jack

OUR 2025 JOURNEY SO FAR 

THIS YEAR, **JACK** HAS PLEDGED SUPPORT FOR:



DEER VALLEY YMCA

A traditional summer camp nestled in the beautiful mountains of Western Pennsylvania. This pledge specifically supports the introduction of a new composting system in the Camp mess hall, designed to successfully divert food waste from landfills. Jack emphasizes the environmental significance: "Diverting food waste from landfills is paramount, preventing its transformation into methane gas, which is toxic to our ozone layer. Instead, composting converts this waste into carbon dioxide, enriching our grass, gardens, and overall environment."

POGOH

Pittsburgh's Bikeshare Program (<https://pogoh.com>). This pledge was intended to serve as part of Jack's larger portfolio focused on local sustainability, offset Pittsburgh Regional Transit's budget shortfall, and generate fun and engaging events designed to strengthen the connection with the Pittsburgh community.



JACK DEBLASIO's philanthropic focus lends to creating pathways to secure the personal freedoms of the underrepresented and the voiceless — including animal rights, governmental transparency, and personal autonomy.



THIS YEAR, **SARAH** HAS PLEDGED SUPPORT FOR:



We are so grateful to our CHALLENGER supporter of Artadia Tennis 2025, The DeBlasio Family Foundation. This event is a lively tennis tournament that raises funds for the Artadia Awards program, helping us to grant unrestricted funds to artists in eight cities.



Artadia has awarded over  \$6 million in unrestricted funds to  430 artists in 8 cities 



THE ARTADIA TENNIS TOURNAMENT

The Artadia Tennis Tournament successfully raising awareness and funds for Artadia's vital mission to elevate artists' careers at pivotal moments through recognition, grantmaking, community support, and advocacy. Artadia is a non-profit grantmaker and nationwide community of visual artists, curators, and patrons. We elevate the careers of artists at pivotal moments in their practice through a proven combination of recognition, grantmaking, community support, and advocacy. Artadia also provided unprecedented support in the form of unrestricted grants and

mentorship/crisis response to artists who were impacted by the recent LA fires!

Sarah's involvement underscores her expansive commitment to promoting awareness, access, and support for contemporary artists, while also championing institutional innovation that enhances engagement with museum experiences, history, and modern cultural influence.



SARAH DEBLASIO's philanthropic and leadership focus spans the Arts — including the promotion, access, and support of contemporary artists as well as the institutional innovation of access to the museum experience, history, and influence in modern culture.



THIS YEAR, **HEATHER** HAS PLEDGED SUPPORT FOR:



 **Skydog Sanctuary** @skydogsanctuary · Jun 11
Thanks to our wonderful #donors, these young mustangs have happy futures ahead of them. We will make sure they have everything they need to live their best lives. Their respective #wildhorse herds in #OR & #WY face annihilation from the BLM. We want to help as many as we can.



OPERATION WILD HORSE

A key part of the expanded mission of Veterans R&R, Operation Wild Horse (OWH) is a healing initiative that bonds mustangs and our nation's heroes (veterans, active-duty military, and their families) as they navigate life outside of service. Through community-centric experiences and resources, OWH helps build deep and lasting relationships.

SKYDOG RANCH & SANCTUARY

A forever home for wild mustangs and burros who have ended up in horrible and dangerous situations - at kill pens, at auctions, or in unloving homes where they have often been starved and neglected. The horses at Skydog represent so many different aspects of the mustang issue: once rounded up by the Bureau of Land Management, many slip through the cracks and end up without the most basic care and affection.

CALEDONIA SENIOR LIVING & MEMORY CARE

Rooted in deep traditions established by Chicago Scots – a vital Scottish cultural society and the oldest nonprofit in Illinois –Caledonia Senior Living & Memory Care provides excellent care across a full continuum, steeped in the Scottish values of authenticity, warmth, tradition and community. This unique woodland setting serves as a beautiful backdrop for our varied programs designed to keep residents physically active, mentally involved and spiritually engaged.

SPRINGBOARD ENTERPRISES

Springboard is a global network of entrepreneurs, investors, and advisors accelerating the success of women entrepreneurs in technology and life sciences.



HEATHER HOLMES's philanthropic focus lends towards her professional interests in supporting elderly individuals in aging with dignity. Specifically, as it relates to social isolation, loneliness, and their financial health. As a successful entrepreneur, Heather is also proactive in supporting other professional women and women-led companies in their entrepreneurial endeavors.



THIS YEAR, **JOHN** HAS PLEDGED SUPPORT FOR:



THE CIVIC FEDERATION

The Civic Federation's citizen-led effort towards a City Charter for the city of Chicago. While city charters vary in scope and particulars from city to city, they typically establish foundational structures for governance and policymaking.

- Establish the structural components of government
- Formalizing the constitutional authority of city officials
- Establishing rules for the legislative process
- Establishing a formal budget process

- Formalizing rules regarding municipal elections
- Codifying accountability mechanisms

[Learn more by visiting the Civic Federation Website.](#) The Civic Federation is an independent, non-partisan government research organization that provides robust and objective fiscal analysis, recommendations, and oversight for the benefit of civic and business leaders, the media, and the general public in Chicago and the State of Illinois.

NEIGHBORHOOD ENTREPRENEURSHIP LAB

NEL is an initiative that pairs community business owners with project advisors, project strategists, community partners, and corporate partners who provide intensive support and financial capital/ grants to help execute a growth initiative.

ILLINOIS JOINING FORCES (IJF)

Founded in 2012, IJF helps service members, Veterans, and their families navigate the "sea of goodwill" to find the support they need, when they need it. No one organization can do it all, but Veterans shouldn't have to wander from office to office – or website to website – to determine who does what and which organization can best meet their needs.

CRIME LAB POLICE LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

A first-of-its-kind violence reduction initiative that aims to prevent violent crime, support officers, and improve fairness and effectiveness in policing.

- Five-month, robust management and leadership education to police at the commander level
- No cost to the department.
- Better police management practices nationwide
- Focuses on many of America's highest-violence geographies
- Rigorously evaluated to measure its effectiveness, addresses a persistent training gap



JOHN DEBLASIO's philanthropic focus spans a variety of collaborative initiatives leveraging non-profit investments into businesses with societal impact. In addition, he works with multiple civic organizations in Chicago as well as organizations serving communities like veterans and his alma mater, West Point.

Thanks, as always, for your kindness and support.

Don't hesitate to reach out to any one of us to join us in support of these wonderful organizations.

The Deblasio Family Foundation

