Dear FirstName,

As the Foundation enters its fourth year, I am pleased to report that the management training we are providing to our grantees – Inwood House, New Life and PAVE – is producing stronger, more effective leaders. This initiative will help to ensure that all three organizations can continue their work of educating and empowering young people for many years to come.

Senior staff members from Inwood House, New Life and PAVE have now completed training in adaptive leadership led by consultants from 11Plus. The training consists of both group and individualized coaching sessions. Senior leaders at all three organizations are using their new skills to meet critical strategic goals:

- Inwood House and a new partner, Children’s Village, are applying adaptive leadership principles to help bridge the two cultures of their organizations.
- New Life is applying the framework to unify and develop more consistent programming across its ministries.
- PAVE is using the training to foster a shared vision and purpose as it expands into new schools.

Once training is complete, each group remains connected as an ongoing learning community, in which participants can share the successes and challenges of running their respective non-profits.

As a testimony to the success of the program, one of our alumnae considers the adaptive leadership model so powerful that she has decided to take it with her in her new role. Dr. Linda Lausell Bryant, formerly the executive director of Inwood House, is now the Katherine and Howard Aibel Visiting Professor and Executive-in-Residence at the NYU Silver School of Social Work. With support from the Foundation, Linda’s class will increase collaboration between those who have been trained in adaptive leadership and will also introduce a new generation of students to the program.

Looking ahead, all three of our grantees would like to offer adaptive leadership training to others within their organizations. As the program expands to include more people, we plan to develop analytical tools that measure the effectiveness of this work over time.
In addition to leadership training, we continue to support the needs of our grantees in other ways. PAVE sent five faculty to the Relay Graduate School of Education to build a coaching program and learn to use student assessment data more effectively. New Life brought an IT specialist on board to create a more user friendly and efficient data collection and analysis program. Inwood House recruited and trained individuals for its Peer Leader Program.

The work of the Foundation is being publicized in several forums. As part of The Children’s Support Foundation’s Innovative Philanthropy Series, I participated in a fascinating panel discussion entitled “Behind Closed Doors – What questions to ask before you make a gift.” In September, I will be on UNC’s Carolina Women’s Leadership Council’s Panel and speaking as part of Carolina Women Making a Difference. In October, 11Plus will present our work at CONNECT, a conference for smaller philanthropic organizations.

In closing, I want to thank all of you who were able to attend the second annual RW Charity Golf Classic last September. Robert’s spirit was with us throughout the beautiful, sunny day – on the golf course and especially on the back porch – and we raised $225,000. This year’s outing is on September 18th – mark your calendar and register online at www.brwjrfoundation.org/connect/events.

Thank you for supporting the Foundation and for your prayers and encouragement.

Sincerely,

Caroline Williamson
Executive Director