



SquashSmarts 2008 Annual Appeal

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The SquashSmarts afterschool program continues to shape the lives of young children in a unique and powerful way. This year, 100% of our students graduated from high school and are now attending college. As Executive Director of this wonderful family, it is with fatherly pride that I share with you two photos that I think articulate all that we've accomplished and – more importantly – all that we have yet to achieve. As you consider supporting the many worthwhile non-profit organizations in your community this holiday, isn't it nice to know that your investment has a 100% return with SquashSmarts?



100% Success! SquashSmarts' first graduating class... and the students following their lead.

By keeping Philadelphia's young people in shape, in school and on-track for graduation 100% of the time, SquashSmarts has developed a model that truly works. Our mission is predicated upon the simple yet powerful idea that a personal investment in *each* child for seven years – regardless of talent or ability – fosters real, lasting change.

Just ask Amber, Jasmine, Kareem, Mercedes, Quinetta, Rachel, Tempest and Toni. Each joined SquashSmarts back in 2001. Now, after seven years of intensive mentoring, tutoring, squash instruction, leadership programs and cultural trips, all remain active and committed team members. What's more, each is a productive and respected student in school. In fact, this year our team maintained a 93.6% school attendance rate as compared with the 55% district dropout rate among their peers. What a powerful example these juniors and seniors are to the 57 new children who've joined SquashSmarts since then. It reminds me of the old adage:

Small stones make only a ripple at first, but eventually they become a wave.

Our staff, students and volunteers take great pride in the wave of success they are creating. But what does this mean to you? It means your contribution – 100% of it – will make a lasting impact on the lives of young people in your city.

SquashSmarts is proud to continue affecting positive change in Philadelphia's youth and I invite you to make a contribution to the SquashSmarts' Annual Fund today. Now, more than ever, our students and staff need your support.

Warm Regards,

Stephen S. Gregg
Executive Director

SquashSmarts is Giving Kids Their Very Best Shot!