



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GREATER ENRICHMENT PROGRAM RECEIVES NEW BIKES FOR STUDENTS FOR THE HOLIDAYS

– UNTIL Foundation donates bikes and helmets to every Greater Enrichment Program student at the Ashley Park Elementary site –

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Greater Enrichment Program (GEP), a not-for-profit, afterschool academic and cultural enrichment program, has announced it will receive more than 80 brand new bikes and helmets for every student who attends GEP at the Ashley Park Elementary site. All of the bikes and helmets are being donated by UNTIL Foundation, a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to improve the lives of children who are in foster care and underprivileged.

UNTIL Foundation will present each child with his or her very own bike and helmet this Saturday, December 14 at the GEP administrative office from 10 a.m. to noon. Trek Bicycle Corporation representatives also will be present to personally fit the bike and helmet to each child.

UNTIL Foundation does not receive any government grants and strictly operates through personal, individual financial contributions, which made the bike donations possible. The foundation will donate nearly 200 bikes throughout the Charlotte community, including the 83 that will be given to GEP.

“We wanted to give these children something they could enjoy, use for physical activity and be proud of,” said Deborah Edge, founder of UNTIL Foundation. “Through our wonderful, generous contributions from private donors, we are able to make this possible.”

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Bike Donations to GEP Students

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Edge also said her foundation is driven to provide and present opportunities to underprivileged children, to change their lives and to do it on a daily basis – a mission that her organization and GEP both share. She said she is extremely honored to partner and work with GEP because of all the wonderful things they do for kids.

“We don’t know why or how children end up in foster care or become underprivileged,” said Edge. “What we focus on and are concerned about is making sure these kids are afforded the same opportunities as other, more fortunate children.”

Bishop George E. Battle, Jr., senior bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church and founder of GEP, said he’s so excited about and tremendously pleased with the relationship between GEP and UNTIL Foundation.

“What UNTIL Foundation has done for our children in the program is absolutely amazing and their generosity is overwhelming,” said Bishop Battle. “This is one of the largest, most generous gifts our program has received. This is a huge blessing for our children and their families this holiday season.”

About GEP

Founded in 1975, [Greater Enrichment Program](#) (GEP) is a licensed, not-for-profit afterschool academic, cultural and social enrichment program that serves at-risk, elementary-aged children in the Charlotte community. GEP operates at three sites in Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools, and all services, including transportation, are of no cost to participants and their families. By providing support to the whole family, GEP helps children gain knowledge, confidence and character to achieve their personal best in school and in their community. For more information, visit www.gepinc.org.

About UNTIL Foundation

It is the mission of [The UNTIL Foundation](#) to improve the daily lives of displaced and underprivileged children; to promote opportunity, development of life skills, and social enrichment through mentoring, education, and dependable adult relationships; to develop Communities of Caring, and other initiatives to accomplish the mission. For more information, visit www.untilfoundation.org.

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