



In this year of 2024, St. George's Scholar Institute (SGSI) cheerfully celebrates 60 years of service to the Louisville community. What started as a place for young people to play basketball, has now blossomed into one of Louisville's premier Youth Development agencies.

Born out of the Episcopal Church, SGSI has impacted thousands of lives over its rich history. In its early years, it was named St. George's Community Center and the programming included G.E.D classes, art & drama, clothes closet, and a food pantry for underserved community residents or their children.

The last 20 years have seen programming evolve to meet the needs of an ever-changing society and helped narrow our focus on exclusively serving the youth in our community. In 2014, with the help of Leadership Louisville and its "Ignite" program, the organization chose to undertake a renaming and rebranding initiative that appropriately described its mission to Embrace, Educate and Empower youth in Louisville. **The youth programming at St. George's Community Center became St. George's Scholar Institute.**

In 2008, the summer program earned national recognition for being one of the best Children's Defense Fund Freedom Schools in the country. The organization had forged partnerships with many other youth serving agencies like the Louisville Urban League, YMCA, Metro Parks and Jefferson County Public Schools and financial and strategic partners like Metro United Way, Metro Louisville, PNC Bank, Brown Foreman, the Gheens Foundation and its cornerstone partner, the Episcopal Diocese of Kentucky. These relationships allowed the organization to grow its services to youth in kindergarten through 12th grade.

In 2017, SGSI outgrew its former location at 26th and Oak Street, "The Tachau House," and has since found a home inside the California Community Center. As a safe haven for young people, the California Center is a magnet for neighborhood youth who are yearning for quality youth development programming.

Today, SGSI serves over 200 youth annually in a variety of different activities, to include: College & Career Readiness, visual arts programming that highlights graphic design and apparel design, music engineering, D-J instruction, mentoring activities, and tutoring.

We will celebrate this momentous occasion several times throughout the year and invite all to join us. Please look out for Save the Date alerts for various events.