Dear Friends,

I am honored to present our FY 2014 Annual Report to you as part of our ongoing 25th Anniversary celebration. I truly appreciate your generosity in supporting our Crusaders last year, and am particularly grateful to the many donors who have supported us through so much of our history. Thank you for sharing the journey with our children, for making the journey possible.

At our recent Believe Breakfast, it was a moving experience to hear our founder, Dr. Americo W. Petrocelli, reflect upon the nature of this journey. Below, in this excerpt from his remarks, he spoke from the heart about a fundamental exchange that must take place in each generation if a society is to thrive:

Twenty-five years ago I used to convince people of the value of the Crusade by quoting an old African proverb, It takes a village to raise a child. And I added to that, It takes a child to save the village. An enlightened village seeks to educate its children, whether those children are poor, ill-fed and ill-clad, or whether they are rich, well-fed and well-clad, because the elders knew they would grow old, that they will be the same on the inside but have little capacity to do things on the outside. They need the youth, the vitality, the intelligence of the children. Education is that link that brings together the wisdom of the elders with the vitality of the youth to forge the relationship that secures the village. Our Crusaders are indeed helping to save the village that is Rhode Island, the village that is the United States, and indeed the village that is the world.

On behalf of all our Crusaders and their families, and our Board members past and present, thank you for helping to keep this vision alive.

Todd D. Flaherty, Ed.D., President & CEO
The College Crusade gratefully acknowledges our generous contributors during FY 2014 (July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014)